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**YUGOSLAV NEWS AGENCY TO OPEN AN OFFICE IN JERUSALEM**

TEL AVIV, July 27 (JTA) -- The Tanjug official Yugoslav news agency will have a bureau in Israel and its local representative, Miroslav Vishjie, formerly head of its Cairo bureau, said Sunday the establishment of its office in Jerusalem signals improved Yugoslav-Israel relations.

"The fact that an official news agency opens its bureau in Israel speaks for itself. After this, similar step-by-step moves most probably will follow," he told reporters. He said he had chosen Jerusalem as the center of his news gathering and reporting activities because he suffers from asthma. An official Tanjug agency report issued in Belgrade on Saturday said its Israel bureau would be opened in Tel Aviv.

Vishjie has been in Israel several times, coming here on special reporting assignments from his previous post in Cairo.

SHAS CONTINUES TO PUSH FOR RABBINICAL COURT LAW AMENDMENT

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 27 (JTA) -- The ultra-Orthodox Shas party proposed in the Knesset Monday an amendment to the Rabbinical Courts Law which would give the court sole authority to approve all conversions performed abroad.

The anticipated proposal prompted a delegation of American Jewish leaders to take an unscheduled trip to Israel Sunday to convey to Israeli officials and public their serious concern and opposition to the politization of the "Who is a Jew?" issue.

A leader of the delegation, Shoshana Cardin, president of the Council of Jewish Federations, said last week the series of amendments to Israeli laws dealing with converts would delegitimize millions of non-Orthodox American Jews.

Likud warned Shas Sunday night that it could not guarantee a majority vote to pass the proposal at the first introductory reading scheduled for Wednesday. Likud and Shas representatives are scheduled to meet again Monday night but a Shas spokesman indicated that they might withdraw the proposal by Wednesday if the legislation seemed doomed to failure.

Effect Of The Shas Amendment

The "back door" Shas amendment would have the same effect as other proposed amendments to the Law of Return which would redefine "Who is a Jew?" The ultra-Orthodox have introduced numerous amendments to the Law of Return which would stipulate that a convert undergo a halachic conversion in order to qualify for automatic Israeli citizenship granted to all Jews on request.

Under Israeli law, an amendment that fails can only be reintroduced six months after the vote. The Shas amendment effectively keeps the issue on the political agenda after the failure of proposed amendments to the Law of Return on July 8.

American Jewish leaders have expressed their opposition to the issue becoming a political football rather than a religious dispute. Shas has

threatened to pull out of the unity government and vote for early elections if Likud would not push the amendments through Knesset. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, in an apparent capitulation to pressure from Shas, pledged several months ago to do all in his power to get the amendments passed.

Likud MKs almost unanimously supported an amendment to the Law of Return on July 8 but the measure was narrowly defeated.

FEDORENKO EXECUTED

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, July 27 (JTA) -- Feodor Fedorenko, the Nazi guard at the Treblinka death camp deported in 1984 from the United States to the Soviet Union and sentenced to death last year, has been executed, according to a report from the Soviet news agency Tass. The report did not indicate when the 79-year-old Fedorenko was executed.

Fedorenko was the first Nazi war criminal to be deported from the U.S. to the Soviet Union. The Ukrainian, who came to America in 1949, was charged by the U.S. government with failing to disclose his wartime activities when he entered the country, and when he applied for U.S. citizenship, granted him in 1970. The prosecution charged him with having beaten and shot Jewish inmates.

Fedorenko was the first Nazi war criminal to be judged by the U.S. Supreme Court, and the first time a U.S. Attorney General had taken part in the proceedings.

In 1981, Fedorenko, who had been a factory worker in Philadelphia, himself applied to live permanently in the Soviet Union, where he had family, after the Supreme Court revoked his U.S. citizenship in January of that year for lying about his past when he immigrated to the U.S. He was ordered deported in February 1983. At the time, he faced no charges in the Soviet Union, and he lived as a free man for approximately a year before being arrested and charged with wartime crimes.

Fedorenko himself admitted at his original denaturalization trial that he had been an SS guard at Treblinka, according to Eli Rosenbaum, former prosecutor at the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations. And he admitted, said Rosenbaum, joining his fellow guards in shooting "in the direction of" escaping Jewish prisoners during the Treblinka uprising in 1943. The Soviet court in the city of Simferopol passed the death sentence on Fedorenko on June 19, 1986 after finding him guilty of treason and the mass execution of citizens from many countries at Treblinka.

In April, the U.S. deported Nazi concentration camp guard Karl Linnas to the Soviet Union, where he had been sentenced to death in absentia in 1962 for his crimes. Linnas died earlier this month before a decision was made to confirm that sentence.

It was during several photo-spread reviewing sessions by Treblinka survivors being asked to look at photos in the Fedorenko case that the survivors instead pointed to a photo of John

Demjanjuk, identifying him as "Ivan the Terrible" from Treblinka. Demjanjuk's picture was on the spread only because the government had needed photographs of eight men of similar appearance.

Demjanjuk at the time was under investigation for crimes committed at the Sobibor death camp. Monday, Demjanjuk began testimony in his own defense at his trial in Jerusalem.

FOCUS ON ISSUES

LONGHORNS, ISRAELIS AND JNF

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, July 27 (JTA) -- Surely, there is no mention in any liturgy of Laredo, Texas, as a "land of milk and honey." Yet, with the sure vision and unflinching approach of the agriculture commissioner of the Lone Star State, a troubled and poor spot is about to bloom on the Rio Grande, with Israeli know-how and the Jewish National Fund partners with Texas in an unusual but highly practical experiment.

Jim Hightower, the Texas Commissioner of Agriculture, was at JNF headquarters in New York last week to announce the novel project. Charlotte Jacobson, treasurer and past president of JNF, and Dr. Samuel Cohen, JNF executive vice president, presented the softspoken Texan with a comprehensive plan for developing a "Blueprint Farm of the Future" at Laredo using Israeli farm technology.

JNF financed \$50,000 for a feasibility study by the Texas-Israel Exchange (TIE), Hightower's maverick creation of mutually beneficial agriculture projects that include crop production, water conservation, cooperative marketing, integrated pest management and solar energy generation. The Laredo project is the first of the TIE program. A 15-member steering committee of public officials and local business and agricultural leaders from south Texas is working with TIE on the project.

"Because of the financial support of the Jewish National Fund, the technical expertise of an Israeli evaluation team, and the pioneering spirit of the people of Laredo, our 'Blueprint Farm' is ready to advance from the talking stages into the plowing and planting stages," Hightower said.

Determined To Make Project Work

Since the demise of Texas oil riches and because of the painful difficulties that American farmers are facing -- a story in itself -- the small Texas farmer, and the state in general, have plummeted in productivity. But Texas sees these problems as a challenge to even more productivity. Hightower, a man of great conscience and an iron will, is determined to make a project work. He has devoted a large chunk of his time to bringing together the sharpest minds and greatest expertise among Israelis and Texans.

Hightower is a mover and a shaker, but he is also modest, and he gives credit to others as it is due, and immediately. He said he owes his idea of bringing together Texas and Israel for the novel exchange to Sara Ehrman, a Jewish Texan once a member of the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), active in Texas Jewish and Democratic activities, and TIE's first Texas coordinator. (Hightower announced last week that Nancy Epstein now serves in that position.)

Ehrman, he said, approached him back in 1982 -- as soon as he was elected commissioner -- to look into the possibilities of such a Texas-Israel cooperative venture. On the face of it, the

partnership might look a trifle lopsided, but the fact is that Texas and Israel lie on the same latitude, and have similar problems with aridity and the need for advanced irrigation techniques and crop rotation.

An interesting footnote: drip irrigation, always spoken of with Israel in mind, was, said Hightower, invented at Texas A&M University.

The Evolution Of An Idea

Hightower was invited to Israel but, he said, he "wanted to do more than just take a tour. I wanted it to be a useful trip." He went to Israel "to see people who did something innovative," he told JTA in a long interview at the JNF offices.

About 200-300 leaders of the Texas Jewish community were interested in the idea, and AIPAC and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith also got involved in the venture; ADL out of missions to Israel by its Texas regional members who came back "wanting to do something."

In 1984 in Israel, Hightower was advised by several people in government to talk to Avraham Katz-Oz, then a Labor Member of Knesset, a kibbutznik personally involved in agriculture and since named Deputy Minister of Agriculture. Hightower said there was "no need to discuss grandiose schemes. It was only necessary to make one thing work." A team of Texans, comprising farmers, business people and government figures, was invited to Israel. After talking to Katz-Oz about an agricultural exchange, "They were really bowled over," Hightower said. Katz-Oz himself came to Texas in the spring of 1985. "This raised a lot of eyebrows in Texas and Jerusalem," Hightower laughed. "The Foreign Ministry asked, 'What's going on?'"

No Small Potatoes

It wasn't just small potatoes. Together, the Texans and the Israelis had come up with the idea to rotate crops of December tomatoes; asparagus, melons, bell peppers, sweet basil, dill and other fresh herbs; and cut flowers such as irises and gladiolus.

Hightower and Katz-Oz then signed a memorandum of agreement in Austin, Texas, for Texas-Israel agricultural cooperation, with each man becoming a cochairman of TIE. In fact, Katz-Oz admitted that Israel could learn from Texas farmers, citing Texas's ability to grow sweeter citrus fruits.

Hightower returned to Israel in November 1986, having been reelected to his post, with specific proposals and a meeting with the Israel contingent of TIE. In Texas, John Vlcek, assistant commissioner for marketing and agricultural development, toured Texas with Ehrman, visiting Rotary Clubs and other places where farmers gathered to discuss the planned venture.

The dean of Laredo Community College, Jacinto Juarez, offered 100 acres of the college's land for farming. A local farmer and businessman, Randolph Slaughter, offered additional acreage, already irrigated, for the project. In all, the project is making use of 47 acres of the land offered.

At this point, Hightower approached JNF in Texas, which agreed to commit a small portion of the money it raised to go to the project. In Israel, Tahal Consulting Engineers Ltd., a government-owned company, was commissioned to assess the land in Laredo.

This past March, a team of three Israeli agriculture experts spent a month making a

detailed analysis of the farmsite's soil characteristics, irrigation capabilities and climate. The team, composed of Dr. David Ityiel, agricultural planner, Dr. David Melamed, irrigation engineer, and Dr. Binyamin Gamliel, crops specialist, indicated that crop production could begin this coming fall.

Some Favorable Statistics

The total cost of developing the Blueprint Farm -- which will include greenhouses, protective nets and a drip irrigation system -- was calculated by the Israelis at approximately \$480,000. TIE has already received a grant of \$125,000 from the Meadows Foundation of Dallas to hire an Israeli farm manager, prepare the land, buy seed and equipment and develop market surveys for the farm.

The Israeli team estimated costs and yields on a 25-year basis, and figures that the internal rate of return would be about 20 percent, "with all capital investment recovered within nine to ten years."

With these favorable statistics in mind, TIE is now seeking additional funds to develop the project from the Hoblitzelle Foundation of Dallas, the Ford Foundation and the Jewish Fund for Justice.

And Hightower's maverick concept has not stood still with Israel. Texas now has an exchange agreement with Egypt, sending 12,000 dairy cows to Egypt, as well as a crop exchange with Mexico, and other states have since established individual ties with Israel, following the lead of Texas.

60 LAWMAKERS URGE JAPAN TO INVITE JERUSALEM TO CONFERENCE IN KYOTO By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, July 27 (JTA) -- Sixty House members have signed a letter to Nobuo Matsunaga, the Japanese Ambassador to the United States, urging that Jerusalem be invited to send representatives to a World Conference of Historical Cities to be held in Kyoto in November.

"Any conference on the impact of the major cities of the world on the history of mankind would be noticeably incomplete without a discussion of the historical contributions of the city of Jerusalem," the Congressmen stressed in the letter initiated by Reps. Mel Levine and Robert Matsui (both D. Calif.). "In this case, such an omission is so blatant and unjustified that it raises concerns of political bias and prejudice," the letter said.

The exclusion of Jerusalem was first raised with Matsunaga in May by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. Abraham Foxman, at that time the ADL's associate national director, in a letter to the Ambassador, noted that "not to have Jerusalem, is, in our judgement, unjustified and raises questions as to whether there is some political bias at work here."

Fears Appear Justified

This fear appears justified from the reply Foxman, now national director, received this month from Koichi Haraguchi, the Japanese Embassy's counselor for public affairs. Haraguchi said that Foxman's letter was sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tokyo, which then received from the City of Kyoto several reasons for not inviting Jerusalem, including a decision that since Jerusalem's status was the "subject of political controversies as reflected in the debate at the

United Nations," the Israeli capital would not be invited "irrespective of its long history and tradition."

Enclosed with Haraguchi's letter was a copy of the Dec. 15, 1980 UN General Assembly resolution rejecting the Knesset action annexing all of Jerusalem and declaring the city Israel's capital. Japan voted for the resolution.

Foxman replied to the Ambassador last week that "Unfortunately, Jerusalem's exclusion from the Kyoto conference is not an isolated instance of Japanese political bias against Israel. Your government's open support for the Arab boycott, its refusal to engage in scientific exchanges and to promote cultural ties with Israel have contributed to the coolness that has characterized the two countries' relations for more than a decade."

His remarks were echoed by Jess Hordes, associate director of the ADL's Washington office, who told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that "This incident is unfortunately indicative of Japan's traditional reluctance to have full and open political, economic and cultural relations with Israel." Hordes also noted that "No Japanese official of ministerial rank has ever visited Israel." Haraguchi, who could not be reached for comment Monday, also stressed in his letter that the City of Kyoto wanted "to make it clear" that its decision does not reflect any "racial or religious bias."

He added that such cities as Fez, Baghdad, Tunis, Quebec and Cuzco had asked to attend and were rejected. Among the 35 cities invited were Alexandria, Egypt, and Damascus, Syria. The only United States city invited was Boston.

SCIENTISTS ASK FOR LERNER'S PERMIT By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, July 27 (JTA) -- Hundreds of computer scientists meeting in Seattle this month for the Sixth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence appealed to Soviet authorities to allow their colleague, Prof. Alexander Lerner of Moscow, to emigrate, according to the Committee of Concerned Scientists.

Lerner, 73, a cyberneticist, is one of the longest-term refuseniks, first applying to emigrate in 1971. He was refused that year, and many times subsequently, on the basis of knowledge of "state secrets," although prior to 1971 he had traveled to the West for scientific symposia with testimony by his highest supervisor to the KGB that Lerner was not privy to state secrets.

Lerner and his late wife Judith, who died in 1981, had two small daughters before World War II who were killed at Babi Yar with their grandparents. Lerner had taken the girls, ages three and five, to his native Vinnitsa in 1941 for vacation with their grandparents, two weeks before the German invasion on June 22.

After the war, the Lerner family had two other children, Sonya and Vladimir. Vladimir is currently a Moscow refusenik and Sonya Lerner Levin lives in Rehovot, Israel. Lerner was among eight people cited earlier this year by the Soviets as never to be permitted to emigrate on grounds of "national security." The petition on behalf of Lerner was circulated by Judea Pearl, a professor of computer science at UCLA and a member of the Committee of Concerned Scientists, an independent organization of 5,000 American scientists and engineers dedicated to scientific freedom and human rights of colleagues worldwide.

**IN THIS AGE OF WORKING MOTHERS,
HADASSAH SEEKS NEW, YOUNG LEADERS**

By Alan Feiler
Baltimore Jewish Times

BALTIMORE, July 27 (JTA) -- With the clear majority of its nearly 400,000 members past the age of 50, Hadassah, the women's Zionist organization, finds itself in the predicament faced by many Jewish service organizations -- needing young leadership in an age when women increasingly are juggling careers and families.

Although Hadassah's membership and fund-raising figures are up, officials of the 75-year-old organization, which held its 73rd annual convention here earlier this month, said that it is imperative to reorganize the goals and agendas of its 1,700 chapters to meet the demands and interests of the 1980's career woman who wants to contribute to the development of Israel.

"We live in different times," said Carol Kaplan, president of the southeastern region of Hadassah, who at age 39 is the youngest member of the national board. Kaplan said that older women continue to be the backbone of Hadassah, which has been highly instrumental in the growth of Israel's medical and educational resources.

But, Kaplan said, "between their families and working, there's very little leftover time today for younger women to get involved. We have to show them that there is still a place for them in Hadassah, even if they only have limited time. It's a real challenge for our organization."

Hadassah At Night

Kaplan ought to know. A mother who runs a retail store with her husband in Macon, Ga., she finds that she can tackle Hadassah projects only very late in the day. Her presidency includes Hadassah chapters in Georgia, South Carolina and portions of North Carolina.

"I often say to myself, 'Why am I doing this?' when it's 2 a.m. and my family is sleeping soundly while I'm working at my desk," said Kaplan, who quickly answered her own question: "This is the only way for me to live in Macon, Ga., and direct my feelings about Zionism. Hadassah is my passport."

"Hadassah is aware that we need to have available programs for career women," said Toby Blake, a Baltimore member. "We're having more meetings in the evenings and on weekends, and we're featuring more subject matters that will bring in the professional women."

Indeed, many of the sessions and discussions at the convention dealt with women's place in Jewish life and how to balance family and work. According to Hadassah's national officials, career seminars and offering child care are some of the ways that the organization is attracting younger members.

Recently, Hadassah created a young leadership division that promotes career women and outreach programs for young members who are wives and mothers. However, according to James Lee, director of Hadassah public relations, involvement in Hadassah ultimately depends on the commitment of the individual.

Blake concurred. "Young women are still joining Hadassah because of the work that the organization does. The whole concept of tzedakah is part of Jewish culture. Hadassah is not dying. It's growing," she said. A sense of pride over 75

years of accomplishments combined at the convention with excitement for the future of the organization and the main benefactors of its efforts -- American Jewish women and Israel.

More than 2,500 delegates from all 50 states and Israel converged upon the Baltimore Convention Center to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of Hadassah by Baltimore native Henrietta Szold and listen to such speakers as former Israeli Ambassador Simcha Dinitz, Maryland Senators Paul Sarbanes (D) and Barbara Mikulski (D) and Secretary of State George Shultz discuss a variety of domestic and international matters.

At the formal opening of the convention, Hadassah national treasurer Deborah Kaplan announced that the organization raised \$65.5 million in 1986-87, an increase of \$9 million.

Contributions included \$16.4 million raised for the Hadassah Medical organization, \$2.9 million for the organization's Youth Aliyah program, \$1.7 million for educational services in Israel, \$1 million for the Jewish National Fund and \$1.9 million for projects for Zionist youth activities. In addition, dues were increased by \$2.8 million, and it was later announced that more than \$1.25 million in pledges was raised at the convention's annual founder's dinner.

Senator Urges Child Care

In an impassioned speech that was frequently cheered by Hadassah delegates, Mikulski called for increased U.S. funding for Israeli schools and hospitals. She also called for more affordable child care and long-term health care to help American women.

Shultz, who was honored for his work on human rights, praised in his speech American Jews for their commitment to civic duty and human rights, and called for a continued American presence in world affairs, including those concerning Middle East peace prospects.

Hadassah president Ruth Popkin said at the convention's close that many goals were reached there, including the restructuring of Hadassah's youth activities and the formation of a new outreach program at Hadassah's community college in Israel.

ISRAEL'S TOP LEADERS REFUSE NBC-TV INTERVIEWS FOLLOWING DOCUMENTARY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 27 (JTA) -- Israeli spokesmen say the refusal by the three top government leaders to grant interviews to NBC-TV correspondents is an expression of displeasure over a July 1 network documentary on Israel.

Premier Yitzhak Shamir's spokesman, Avi Pazner, said NBC's "Six Days Plus 20 Years ... A Dream Is Dying" was a "completely biased and one-sided documentary on Israel." He complained that only non-representative Israeli officials were on camera.

NBC has complained that the refusal of interviews by Shamir, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin is a boycott of the network. The Foreign Press Association in Israel is looking into the situation, saying official attempts at a boycott of a foreign news agency was a dangerous, undemocratic precedent that smacked of news management such as that practiced in the Soviet bloc.

U.S. AIR FORCE OFFICIAL SAYS U.S. WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED IF ISRAEL CONTINUES WITH LAVI BUT U.S.-ISRAEL RELATIONS WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17 (JTA) — An American Air Force official said here Monday that Israel-U.S. relationships would not be damaged if Israel went ahead with its Lavi jet plane project "but I think we will be very disappointed," he said.

Air Force Secretary Edward Aldridge, here on a five-day visit, was received at Defense Ministry headquarters Monday morning and later met with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and senior defense officials. During his stay in Israel, his first, Aldridge will visit Air Force bases and military installations, including the Israel Aircraft Industries which manufactures the Lavi.

Questioned by reporters about the Lavi project, he said that the decision to halt or go ahead with it "is, of course, an Israeli decision with many facets and many important but difficult problems. Our view is that it would not be in the best interests of the Israeli government because of the impact it will have on other programs which are equally important."

Difficulty Of Making A Decision

Aldridge added that "We understand the difficulty of making such a decision. We are disappointed it had to be delayed and we are sorry a go or no-go decision was not made. But we understand the difficulties with that." He was referring to the Cabinet decision Sunday to defer until next Sunday a vote on the fate of the Lavi project.

The American official, who is an aeronautical engineer by profession and received training in the U.S. space program, also told reporters "I don't think there will be any negative effect (if the Lavi project continues). We will be disappointed. But it is an Israeli government decision -- it is their decision to make. Our views about the program are well known and we would be disappointed. But as far as our relationships exist, it will not affect those relationships."

Hoping For A Cabinet Majority

The Cabinet's decision Sunday to delay voting on the Lavi followed public urgings last week by the State Department and personal messages by Secretary of State George Shultz to top Israeli government leaders to ground the Lavi. In addition, a growing number of Cabinet Ministers now favor scrapping the jet. Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres resolved privately and recommended jointly to the Cabinet that it defer a vote for a week or two.

Peres said Monday that the Cabinet will deal with the Lavi project at its next session. He told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that there would have been a tie had the vote been called at Sunday's session. He said he hoped that by next Sunday's Cabinet meeting there will be a majority for continuing the Lavi.

SHAMIR ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO RUMANIA

JERUSALEM, Aug. 17 (JTA) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was scheduled to leave Monday evening for a three-day official visit to Rumania. Officials expected Shamir's talks with Rumanian Presi-

dent Nicolae Ceausescu to center on an international Middle East peace conference, which Shamir still firmly rejects and of which the Rumanian leader has been a long-time advocate.

Ceausescu hosted PLO chairman Yasir Arafat in Bucharest last week.

Ceausescu's invitation to Shamir is seen as an effort to improve his standing on the world stage and revamp his image as an international statesman. That standing has suffered recently as a result of the decision by the U.S. Congress to withhold Most Favored Nation status from Rumania on grounds of human rights abuses.

Israeli sources said Shamir would want to bring up the issue of Soviet Jewish emigration with Ceausescu and his aides. The idea of emigrants flying through Bucharest direct to Tel Aviv has long been mooted as a partial solution to the problem of "neshira" (dropping out).

OPPOSITION IS GROWING WITHIN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY TO BORK'S NOMINATION TO THE SUPREME COURT

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Opposition to the nomination of Judge Robert Bork to the Supreme Court is mounting in the Jewish community. The Jewish War Veterans last week became the fifth Jewish organization to voice its protest.

"Contrary to the Administration rhetoric surrounding Bork's nomination, the issue is one of ideology and the Supreme Court is not well-served by extremist positions," said the statement issued by Edwin Goldwasser, the group's national commander.

The statement by the Jewish War Veterans, a mainstream organization, suggests the extent to which Bork's nomination is meeting opposition in the Jewish community. Worried about Bork's stand on minority and women's rights and church/state issues, some Jewish groups which do not traditionally oppose presidential appointments, consider this one fight where they can not remain on the sidelines.

Along with the Jewish War Veterans, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith Women, National Council of Jewish Women and New Jewish Agenda are opposing the Bork nomination. The National Jewish Coalition has come out in support of the nomination, maintaining that Bork is "eminently qualified" to serve on the court and that "neither ideology nor political opportunism should prevent him from doing so."

David Coyne, executive director of New Jewish Agenda, said he was "very encouraged" by Jewish opposition to Bork. He noted that a year ago, during the nominations of Justice Antonin Scalia and Chief Justice William Rehnquist "the Jewish community was almost nowhere to be found."

Ima Getler, president of B'nai B'rith Women, an organization which did not oppose the two previous court nominations, said her members are showing an unusual interest and concern about the Bork appointment.

"As a Jewish women's organization we felt compelled to speak out in opposition to Bork because he has spoken out on many subjects affecting women and Jews on which we are on record," said Getler.

But sources are saying that other Jewish groups will have to oppose Bork if the Jewish community is going to have an impact on the nomination. The Washington Jewish Week recently reported that three Jewish Senators invited several Jewish organizations to send repre-

representatives to a closed-door meeting to urge them to take a stand on this issue. Sen. Alan Cranston (D. Calif.), reportedly told them that by opposing Bork, Jewish groups could show that they are interested in issues besides Israel. Sens. Carl Levin (D. Mich.) and Howard Metzenbaum (D. Ohio) also reportedly attended the meeting.

Rabbi David Saperstein, executive director of the UAHC's Religious Action Center, said that some Senators who will be swing votes on the Bork nomination could be influenced by the Jewish community's stand on this issue.

"I think what the Jewish community does is going to send a profound signal rippling through the Senate that may well determine the outcome of this battle," he added.

But some Jewish organizations invited to the meeting are still debating whether to oppose the nomination and say they might decide to remain neutral. The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith is currently reviewing Bork's decisions and writings.

"We're just trying to be objective about it. That's why they're having a hearing. Why have a hearing if everyone's taken a position on this?" said David Brody, ADL Washington representative.

The American Jewish Committee has a tradition of not commenting on Supreme Court and Cabinet nominations which are presidential prerogatives, explained David Harris, the group's Washington representative. But he added: "We'll be watching the hearings closely and we reserve the right to reconsider."

EL AL GROUNDED

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Nearly 1,000 passengers who planned to leave Israel on El Al flights Monday were stranded because of a sudden job action by pilots. Efforts were under way by El Al management to arrange alternative flights.

About a dozen pilots reported sick at midnight Sunday, claiming that they were not well enough to fly. But aviation observers noted that the pilots did not require medical attention and that they were really demanding a rescheduling of their vacations.

This is the second job action by El Al pilots this year. The El Al Pilots' Association announced last week that 46 pilots would start a "mass vacation" beginning Tuesday. Under civil aviation regulations, all pilots must take a 10-day consecutive holiday every year, and 132 of El Al's 178 pilots had already scheduled their compulsory vacations. But the El Al management said that it and not the pilots individually would decide the vacation schedules. The pilots responded by calling in sick.

JERUSALEM (JTA) -- The monthly consumer price index rose only 0.2 percent during July. The official figure, released Friday, was much less than government and independent analysts had predicted. The Central Bureau of Statistics attributed the low inflation rate to substantial drops in the prices of fruit and vegetables, and of clothing, during July. The July figure means that employers will not have to pay a cost-of-living increment until at least November.

FOCUS ON ISSUES

By Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth

(Editor's Note: Ellen Kachuck Rosenbluth is director of public affairs for B'nai B'rith Canada, and coordinator of B'nai B'rith's involvement before the Deschenes Commission.)

TORONTO, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- The government of Canada introduced measures June 23 to prosecute Nazi war criminals in Canada and to prevent any war criminals from entering the country.

The Minister of Justice, Ray Hnatyshyn, called the proposed amendments to the Criminal Code, the Citizenship Act and the Immigration Act "historic legislation."

This initiative represented a most significant step in the process which began with the establishment of the Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals in February 1985. After two years of hearings and investigations, Chief Justice Jules Deschenes, the chairman of the inquiry, submitted his report to Parliament on December 30, 1986. When the government disclosed the report and its response in Parliament on March 12, the Justice Minister made a commitment to introduce legislation before the summer recess of Parliament.

Parliament is now taking that recess, but the law enabling Canada to bring Nazi war criminals to justice has not yet been passed. B'nai B'rith Canada was dismayed when on June 30 the legislation was withdrawn until Parliament resumes in the fall, despite the Government's commitment to enact legislation, and the all-party agreement to speed it through the House of Commons.

Concern And Praise

We remain concerned that 42 years after the war only one Nazi war criminal in Canada has been extradited; not one has been prosecuted, deported or denaturalized.

In light of Canada's tradition of inaction in dealing with Nazi war criminals, B'nai B'rith Canada's League for Human Rights praised the government for moving quickly and decisively when the Justice Minister introduced the proposed amendments (Bill C-71).

"We are gratified that the government has given top priority to the problem," said David Matas, senior legal counsel representing the League at the Commission hearings. "Time is of the essence. It is crucial that the legislation be passed immediately in order to begin the long overdue process of bringing Nazi war criminals to justice. We must see that prosecutions are initiated quickly, before more criminals and witnesses progress into old age. In the context of 40 years of Canadian inaction, we cannot afford to lose one more day."

The bill would enable Canada to take action against an estimated 20 suspected Nazi war criminals identified in the Deschenes report as still living in Canada.

"The problem of war criminals should, wherever possible, be dealt with here in Canada, and every case must be resolved in a manner consistent with Canadian standards of law and evidence," Hnatyshyn said in describing the guiding principle behind the proposed legislation.

In search of the "made in Canada solution," the Minister proposed amendments to the Criminal Code providing Canadian courts with jurisdiction to prosecute in Canada war crimes and crimes against humanity that were committed outside Canada. To ensure that the law would be retrospective rather than retroactive,

only those offenses punishable under Canadian law and international law at the time they were committed could be prosecuted. Present rules of evidence and procedure would be employed.

While supporting the proposals and urging their immediate passage, individuals and groups such as Robert Kaplan (Liberal) and the League expressed concern that the amendments may allow some criminals to escape prosecution.

For example, the bill may not cover crimes committed by citizens of countries that were not involved in a war with Canada. The member of the Rumanian Iron Guard who committed war crimes before Rumania entered the war is one such case; the crimes of the "enthusiastic volunteers" of Axis states against their own citizens is another. Representatives of Eastern European communities also objected to the limited jurisdiction stated in the proposed law.

The Criminal Code amendment would permit only the federal Attorney General to initiate proceedings against alleged war criminals due to the international implications of the legislation.

In light of Canada's 40-year history of inaction on the issue, with the exception of the extradition of Helmut Rauca in 1983, the League urged the government to allow provincial attorneys general to prosecute war criminals along with the federal government.

Amendments to the Immigration Act would ensure that people who are "reasonably believed to have committed war crimes or crimes against humanity would not be admitted into Canada, or may be ordered deported. In practical terms, this law could be invoked in the future to exclude an individual such as Austrian President Kurt Waldheim from entering Canada.

Finally, under the proposed amendments to the Citizenship Act, anyone being investigated for committing war crimes, or crimes against humanity, by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service or the Department of Justice will not be able to acquire or resume Canadian citizenship.

The proposals would not permit Canadian authorities to revoke an individual's citizenship or to deport people suspected of committing war crimes. They would, however, prohibit Canadian citizens who have been living elsewhere to try to get back into Canada to avoid facing trial for war crimes or crimes against humanity in another country.

Urged Quick Action

As the first organization to receive standing before the Commission and as an organization that has been concerned with the problem of Nazi war criminals for many years, the League first and foremost commended the government for moving quickly and decisively to draft and introduce the proposed changes.

Above all else, our team of lawyers urged the government and the opposition parties to pass the bill before the summer recess of Parliament and ensure that Canada ceases to be a haven for Nazi war criminals.

The government intended to present the bill for passage by Parliament on June 30, 1987, the final day of the session before the summer recess. The plan of the government was to have the bill go to committee of the whole, and not to legislative committee, where it could be debated for many months. For that, unanimous consent of all the members present in the House of Commons was necessary.

But MP's Alex Kindy and Andrew Witer indicated they would oppose committee of the whole and insist on legislative committee. Witer was prepared to consent to committee of the whole provided the government would accept five amendments he proposed.

The five amendments would broaden the scope of those considered war criminals; impose a publication ban on the hearings; enable only the Attorney General to consent to prosecution (not the Deputy Attorney General); allow deportations only to a country with which Canada has an extradition treaty; and bar an immigrant only if he was a war criminal or criminal against humanity (reasonable grounds to believe a person was such a criminal would not suffice).

The Justice Department turned down these recommendations primarily because they could be contrary to the Charter of Rights.

Ironically, the legislation was not passed on June 30 due to lack of time and lack of unanimous consent necessary for an extension. However, when Parliament resumes, be it in the fall or earlier, the Minister of Justice has once again promised to act as quickly as possible to ensure passage of the legislation.

At least a measure of justice can still be granted to the victims of the Holocaust and their families with the passage of the legislation proposed in June.

U.S. DENIES REPORTS THAT IT PLANS A \$1 BILLION ARMS SALE TO SAUDIS By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- The State Department denied reports Monday that it has decided to plan a \$1 billion arms sale to Saudi Arabia early next month.

"There have been no new developments and there is no current active consideration of this issue," said State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley. "There is no hidden agenda, there will be no surprises on this issue. As we proceed I can assure you that the Administration will consult fully with the Congress."

But Oakley said the Administration has already stated that it will resubmit an arms sales to Saudi Arabia "when it considers it appropriate."

Oakley was responding to a question about a Washington Post article which stated that the Administration, in light of recent developments in the Persian Gulf, is planning to submit the Saudi arms package to Congress when it convenes Sept. 9. The article said the Administration will argue that a strong Saudi Arabia could be an effective deterrent to the Iranians in the region.

The \$1 billion arms package reportedly would include the 1,600 Maverick anti-tank missiles whose sale was withdrawn in June in face of a Congressional override. The sale would also include 12 to 15 F-15 fighter planes valued at \$500 million and improvements to weapons already in the Saudi arsenal.

Sources have said there is nothing new in the Administration intention to resubmit the arms sale. But they said they expect the White House to inform Congress before the sale is officially resubmitted. Legislators complained in June that they were not given advance warning about the Maverick missile sale.

Congressional opposition to the \$360 million Maverick sale increased after Saudi Arabia failed to come to the assistance of the U.S. missile frigate Stark attacked last in May by an Iraqi jet in the Persian Gulf. The anger grew when the Saudis balked at assisting the 11 Kuwaiti ships to be flagged as American in the Gulf.

* * *

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Former Prisoner-of-Zion Zachar Zunshain, who arrived in Israel from the Soviet Union recently, has denied rumors that he is settling in the U.S. and does not intend to return to Israel. Zunshain is quoted as saying that he intends to study political science for two years in Ohio, and added: "I don't know what will happen in two years, but it is not correct that I leave Israel in anger, and that I do not intend to return. It is very possible that after the end of my studies in Ohio I will return to Israel," he said.

CHAGALL EXHIBIT PLANNED FOR MOSCOW

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Following years of official neglect by his motherland, Chagall is -- posthumously -- coming home. For the 100th anniversary of the great Russian Jewish artist's birth, a major exhibition of paintings by Marc Chagall is scheduled to open at Moscow's Pushkin Museum next month.

Long neglected in the place of his birth while the Western world praised him as one of the greatest contributors to 20th-century art, this official Soviet recognition of the Jewish artist is regarded as a tangible result of the new Soviet policy of "glasnost." However, plans for the show have not yet been announced in the USSR.

Poet Andre Voznesensky, a friend of Chagall's who was instrumental in arranging the exhibit, told the press the exhibit was "a victory of glasnost and of artistic democracy." Voznesensky has written the introduction to the catalogue for the exhibit.

Some of Chagall's paintings have been shown in the Soviet Union in the past, but his personal contribution to 20th-century art has not until now been officially recognized. The Great Soviet Encyclopedia mentions him in two paragraphs, in which he is called a "French painter and graphic artist."

Chagall, born July 7, 1887 in Vitebsk, lived most of his life in France, in Paris before World War II and in the village of St. Paul de Vence in southern France in the years since. He spent the war years in the United States. He died in St. Paul de Vence March 28, 1985 at the age of 97.

Difficulties In Mounting The Exhibit

The show will include 50 paintings lent by Chagall's widow, Valentina, 15 from his daughter, Ida, one donated by industrialist Armand Hammer, and several from Soviet museums which have largely hidden Chagall's works away in storage. Valentina Chagall is expected to come to Moscow to help with the exhibit and to plan ceremonies.

Voznesensky acknowledged difficulties in mounting the exhibit. Authorities in Vitebsk, he told the press, refused to do anything to memorialize Chagall. There will be no celebration there, he said.

Chagall's birthplace, a small, wood-frame house that survived World War II, still stands at Number 2 Pokrovskaya Street. Voznesensky said it was the home of a Jewish house painter whose mother remembered Chagall. Voznesensky's attempts to turn the house into a museum failed. Many of Chagall's works, including the famous "I and the Village," immortalize Vitebsk.

As a youth, Chagall moved between Vitebsk, Moscow and St. Petersburg (now Leningrad) developing his unique style of art. After the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, Chagall was named commissar for art in the region of Vitebsk. He created art centers and was actively involved in a local theater group that staged productions for the Red Army.

When he moved to Moscow, he produced sets and costumes for the plays of Sholom Aleichem at the State Yiddish Theater, for which he designed the famous scrim that served as the backdrop for many productions. The Jewish Cameo Music Theater, a current Soviet attempt at Yiddish musical entertainment, uses a copy of this scrim.

Chagall emigrated to Berlin in 1922, and then settled in Paris. In 1931 he visited Palestine, which greatly affected his work in terms of painting Biblical figures, and in his use of light. Chagall returned to the USSR only once since leaving, in 1973, for an exhibition of lithographs at a Moscow gallery.

In a recent article in Moscow News, Soviet art scholar Vitaly Loginov writes of his encounters with Chagall. This article indicated a reawakened acceptance of the Jewish artist.

Loginov wrote that Chagall told him in 1973, "When I see Russian landscapes ... my heart often aches and I feel homesick." Loginov said Chagall asked him if he could please take a picture of his house in Vitebsk and send it to him.

In 1930, Chagall entered into an agreement with a renowned French art dealer, Ambroise Vollard, to illustrate the Bible. This decision altered the course of Chagall's work forever. Jewish themes cropped up in a large part of his work. He once recalled: "I think my first little rabbi from Mohileff had the greatest influence on me... Every Saturday, instead of going bathing in the river, my mother sent me to him to study Bible."

The impact of glasnost on the Soviet art world does not stop there. Following the Chagall exhibit, which opens September 2, the Pushkin Museum will mount an exhibit of the works of Salvador Dali, an artist never before exhibited in the Soviet Union. And the Russian Museum in Leningrad will next year show avant-garde art hidden from public view for decades.

PETER SHIDLOFF DEAD AT 65

LONDON, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Peter Shidloff, a Jewish refugee who helped to found the world's longest surviving string ensemble, has died aged 65.

Shidloff, viola player in the Amadeus Quartet, came to Britain from Austria in 1938 when he was 16 years old. With the outbreak of war he was, like many German and Austrian Jews, confined in an internment camp as an enemy alien.

There he met fellow refugee violinists, Norbert Bainin and Sigmund Nissel, and in 1948, with English cellist Martin Lovett, they founded the Amadeus Quartet in honor of their great hero Mozart. They were recognized as the leading quartet in Europe and admired throughout the world. With Shidloff's death the quartet will now be disbanded.

RUDOLF HESS DEAD AT 93

BONN, Aug. 17 (JTA) -- Rudolf Hess, Hitler's former deputy, died Monday in a British Military Hospital in West Berlin. The 93-year-old Hess was the sole remaining prisoner in Spandau Prison there.

In 1941, he parachuted into Scotland and was captured. His reasons for the jump have remained a mystery. He was convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment at the Nuremberg war crimes trials in 1947.

Last year, Chancellor Helmut Kohl sent a personal plea to the leaders of the Big Four wartime powers to pardon Hess, who had been hospitalized. Kohl's bid to "mercifully release the prisoner into the bosom of his family" met with criticism by many, including the head of Poland's Commission for the Investigation of Nazi Crimes. However, Kohl's plea was an echo of many letters and rallies in West Germany over the years calling for Hess's release.

* * *

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- An anti-Semitic, anti-Zionist, anti-Israel book called "The Promised Land" has recently been published in Czechoslovakia in 14,000 copies, Maariv reported Sunday. The book claims, among other things, that "the Eichmann trial was conducted in order to get rid of a dangerous witness who knew too much," that in the Six-Day War the IDF gave orders not to take prisoners of war, and that one of the heads of the Haganah was in charge of Nazi espionage.

**ISRAEL AND SOVIET OFFICIALS
MEET FOR 10 HOURS IN BONN**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- "The gaps are still wide -- but we are talking." This was the essence Tuesday of top Foreign Ministry aide Nimrod Novik's public confirmation of a 10-hour meeting last weekend between him and a senior Soviet official at the Soviet Embassy in Bonn.

Novik indicated that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres would meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at the United Nations General Assembly next month and that there may be further meetings between officials before that.

He indicated, too, that the two sides had agreed to create a direct channel of communications between them. "Thus the presence of the Soviet Consular delegation in Tel Aviv is not the sum total of the evolving dialogue," Novik told Galei Zahal, the IDF radio station.

Novik's interlocutor was Vladimir Terassov, deputy to Vladimir Polyakov, head of Middle East policy at the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Peres gave first word of the meeting Monday to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, saying it was a cause for "cautious optimism."

Soviets Approved Official Publicity

Novik noted Tuesday that this was the first time the Soviets had approved of official publicity in the wake of such a meeting. In the past, meetings of this kind -- which had never, he added, lasted for more than two hours -- had not been officially confirmed, at the insistence of the Soviet side.

Formal diplomatic dialogue between the two countries began with an official meeting last August in Helsinki. But that broke up after 90 minutes without any apparent breakthrough. In April, Peres met with Polyakov and another Soviet expert in Rome.

Novik made it plain that there had been several unpublicized encounters in between. Other Israeli sources have indicated that the Soviet consular team in Tel Aviv is believed to be empowered to conduct political talks, though thus far such talks have not been held and both sides are rigidly sticking to the formula that the Soviet team is here on purely Consular business.

Shamir Begins Talks In Rumania

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir began his talks Tuesday in Rumania with President Nicolae Ceausescu and his aides. On the plane from Tel Aviv Monday night, sources close to the Premier told reporters Shamir certainly intended to try through Rumania to promote Israel's dialogue with other Warsaw Pact nations.

They noted that Shamir had conferred in Jerusalem Monday, before his departure, with the Israeli diplomat heading the interests office in Warsaw, Ambassador Mordechai Paltsur.

Israel Television reported Monday night that agreement had been reached with Hungary for interest offices to be set up in Budapest and Tel Aviv. Government sources told the Jewish Tele-

graphic Agency they could not give a timetable for this development.

**FIRST TIME IN 25 YEARS:
EAST BERLIN JEWISH COMMUNITY
TO HAVE A RABBI OF ITS OWN**

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- For the first time in almost a quarter century, the small Jewish community in East Berlin will have a rabbi of its own, the result of a four-year effort spearheaded by the American Jewish Committee.

Rabbi Isaac Neuman, a 65-year-old Auschwitz survivor from Champaign, Illinois, will leave for East Germany on Sept. 10 to assume his post and prepare for the High Holy Days. As his first rabbinical action, he will attend the International Ecumenical Conference in East Berlin on Sept. 13 as the official representative of the less than 600 remaining East German Jews.

The Reform rabbi, who is a member of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, will become the only permanent American rabbi ministering in all of the East Bloc nations.

"I am going because there are Jews who are in need of spiritual service in this place out of which so much evil and destruction once emanated," said Neuman. "It is my joy to try to rebuild and reconstruct and provide for the needs of this Jewish community."

He added: "What I hope to bring is the information that will help them understand the oneness of the Jewish people, their shared history and experiences."

Eugene DuBow, director of AJC's Community Services Department, who has overseen this project since its conception, noted that "the process of having a permanent rabbi placed in East Berlin to help revive and rejuvenate the Jewish population there took a lot of time and energy on the part of concerned individuals, but we know that we have accomplished something incredibly worthwhile."

Chronology of Events

DuBow offered the following chronology of events leading to Neuman's appointment:

In the fall of 1983, an AJC leadership delegation to Germany became the first post-war American Jewish group to visit East Berlin. The president of the Jewish community there asked for AJC help in obtaining kosher wine, prayer shawls, German language prayer books, and a rabbi to conduct High Holy Day services. In early 1984, AJC shipped the materials and arranged for a rabbi from Chicago to go to the German Democratic Republic (GDR) to conduct services.

In the fall of 1985, an AJC delegation returned to East Berlin and was informed of the overwhelmingly positive reaction of the Jewish community to the rabbi's visit. East German Jewish community leaders discussed the possibility of finding a more permanent religious figure with the delegation, in an effort to maintain Jewish life and help young people discover their Jewish heritage. After a long search, AJC suggested Neuman for the position.

In the summer of 1986, Rep. William Lehman (D. Fla.) heard about AJC's project and offered

his help. He, along with AJC leaders, held several meetings with U.S. State Department officers and East German officials.

In January 1987, the State Secretary for Religious Affairs of the GDR arranged for Neuman, Lehman, DuBow, and State Department officials to go to East Berlin for Passover to meet with leaders of the Jewish community there and to "firm up" Neuman's appointment.

Neuman's position was officially confirmed by the East German government early last month. The GDR will pay his salary and provide him with an apartment and a car. Major funding for AJC's work with the Jewish community in the GDR came from Saul Mirowitz of St. Louis, who has established the Barbara Mirowitz Fund for East German Jewry in honor of his wife.

JEWISH STUDENTS PROTEST AGAINST PLAY WHICH SUGGESTS NAZI-ZIONIST COMPLICITY By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- Nearly 100 Jewish students Monday night demonstrated in Edinburgh against the first public performance of "Perdition," a play which suggests Zionist complicity in the Nazi Holocaust.

Jewish youth groups, some of which travelled from London, Manchester and Glasgow, stood outside Edinburgh's Royal Lyceum Studio Theater and held placards, distributed leaflets and gave pavement readings of literature about the Holocaust.

The play has been the center of controversy since last January when London's Royal Court Theatre scrapped the premier at only two day's notice.

Performances have also been abandoned in other cities following protests by Jewish groups that the play is malicious distortion of events in Hungary in 1944.

Playwright Jim Allen, a leftwinger who claims flawless anti-racist credentials, said Monday night that he was out to counter the "Hollywood version" of the Holocaust and the State of Israel epitomized by the film Exodus.

His theme, dramatized in the form of a post-war libel action in a London court, is that Hungarian Zionist leaders entered a conspiracy of silence with the Nazis about Auschwitz, thereby sharing responsibility for the death of more than half a million people deported there from Hungary.

Allen, hailing the showing as a victory for free speech, now intends to seek more venues for "Perdition." However, Monday night the young Jewish protesters had the last word. As the Edinburgh audience dispersed in the setting sun, they stood in a circle in the road and sang Hatikva.

SHAIKE OPHIR DEAD AT 58

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- Shaikhe Ophir, Israel's foremost mime and one of its leading comic actors and entertainers, died Monday after what was described as a lengthy illness. He was 58 years old. Virtually the entire Israeli press Tuesday described Ophir as the "prince of the Israeli comic stage."

Friends and colleagues were aware for some time that he was suffering from a terminal illness. The general public might have been aware that something was wrong because of the sudden increase in radio rebroadcasts of his earlier taped

performances. Ophir's friends said Tuesday that a scheduled "Salute to Shaikhe" gala performance would be held Thursday as planned, in his memory. For many years he performed in New York and Hollywood under the name of Shai K. Ophir.

Ophir was born and raised in an observant Jewish family in the Mea Shearim quarter of Jerusalem and left school at an early age to join the Palmach underground in the years leading up to the 1948 War of Independence.

He was one of the founders of the Army's first entertainment troupe, the Chizbatron, which first brought him to the stage.

After the war he went to France and studied mime under the great French mimist, Marcel Marceau, returning later to Israel to establish his own mime troupe.

Inspiration For Israeli Entertainers

Ophir appeared in more than 20 Israeli films and his stage skits were the inspiration for many Israeli entertainers, notably the most popular Hagash Hahiver trio of entertainers for whom he wrote much material.

One of his most popular stage roles was as professor Higgins in the Hebrew version of "My Fair Lady."

Tributes to Ophir were broadcast from virtually all top politicians and entertainment-world stars. Hundreds of admirers filed past his bier as it lay in state at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv before his internment at the Nachlat Yitzhak Cemetery here Tuesday afternoon.

THE IDF IS WALKING TALLER

TEL AVIV, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- The IDF is ordering new and longer beds for its soldiers--not because the beds have shrunk, but because its new recruits are three centimeters (an inch-and-a-half) taller than they were 10 years ago.

The new beds now being ordered are expected to answer the requirements for sleeping stretched out for all except six percent of the tallest new recruits. These unlucky soldiers will have to sleep with bent knees or with their feet sticking out of the end, the IDF quartermaster said. As far as is known, no research has yet been conducted to determine why today's recruits are taller than those a decade ago.

CONVICTED JEWISH UNDERGROUND MEMBERS TRANSFERRED FROM PRISON TO 'YESHIVA'

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- Minister of Public Security Haim Barlev is defending the transfer of two convicted members of the terrorist Jewish underground from prison to the prison system's "rehabilitation yeshiva" in Afula.

Knesset member Mordechai Virshubski of the Citizens Rights Movement had complained to Barlev that the transfer of Yitzhak Ganiram, serving six-year-and-nine-months' prison term, and Yehuda Etzion, serving a seven-year sentence, indicated that they were getting preferential treatment. Virshubski demanded that the two be returned to prison.

Barlev said "The underground prisoners have been treated just like any other prisoners. The prisons' commission is not required to go beyond the terms of the punishment prescribed by the court."

They had both completed more than a quarter of their sentences and thus, after meeting

criteria set by the rehabilitations committee, were eligible for the rehabilitation program, Barlev said. The Minister said he would be willing to grant the same privileges to eligible Moslem and Christian prisoners, if similar religious seminaries were opened in Israel.

Ganiram and Etzion, who were jailed in April 1984, are now serving the remainder of their sentences together with 15 other convicts at the Afula Yeshiva, from where they are taken to work at various locations. They also receive weekend leave.

The inmates are taught by Rabbi David Grossman, of Migdal Haemek, and are supervised by a prison commission official.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW
AN ABSURD AND IMMORAL SUGGESTION
 By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- The commander who led the Israeli forces that liberated the Old City of Jerusalem in the 1967 Six-Day War, says that the idea calling for the "transfer" of the Arab population of East Jerusalem and the West Bank is "absurd, impractical and immoral."

Brig. Gen. (Res.) Uzi Narkiss, who was the chief of the Central Command during the 1967 war, said that Israel is facing a situation that cannot be altered. "Look," he said in an interview here, "any Arab who wants to leave is free to do so. But to force any Arab on the West Bank to leave against his or her will is simply absurd."

Two weeks ago an Israeli politician, Deputy Defense Minister Michael Dekel of Likud called for the "transfer" of the Arab population in the West Bank to other countries. His suggestion raised a storm of protests in Israel and was widely reported around the world.

"I believe that Mr. Dekel talks of transfer because he wants to be in the news and be elected again to the Knesset," Narkiss said, stressing once more that the idea of transfer is "groundless and impossible."

Narkiss arrived in New York as part of a delegation of 12 commanders and officers of the Israel Defense Force units that liberated Jerusalem more than 20 years ago. Members of the delegation will visit Jewish communities in the United States and Canada in the next three weeks to participate in the Israel Bond campaign's "Operation Jerusalem."

Fears Anti-Zionist Majority In Jerusalem

The Jerusalem-born Narkiss, who is now the head of the World Zionist Organization's information department, expressed concern, however, that Jerusalem might face a situation in the future in which the anti-Zionist elements in the city will be the majority.

"Since the majority of Israelis, I would say about 90 percent of the population, do not want a territorial compromise on Jerusalem, we do have to face the problem of the growing anti-Zionist elements in the city that include the Arab population and the ultra-Orthodox who do not believe in the Jewish State."

Noting that although the present majority of the city's population is Jewish and Zionist, with 30 percent Arabs and 10 percent "Haredim" (anti-Zionist religious Jews) Narkiss said that, nevertheless, if measures are not taken now Zionist Jews might lose their majority in the city.

"Israel must encourage young Israelis to come and live in Jerusalem by offering them

affordable housing and employment," Narkiss suggested. He said that world Jewry can help, too: "Jews around the world must come on aliya in growing numbers and settle in Jerusalem."

'Felt We Were Creating History'

Recalling the awesome days of the liberation of Jerusalem, Narkiss said that when he and his troops entered the gates of the Old City on the third day of the war, "we felt and we knew that we were creating history. We felt that this is an historic occasion, the fulfillment of 2,000 years of dreams and longing. After two days of intense fighting, during which we lost 183 soldiers, we suddenly faced a real Jerusalem, a city of stone that could be touched and felt. It was a unique experience, a one-time event in a nation's life. I feel very proud that I was part of it all," Narkiss said.

Members of the delegation, which include Gen. (Res.) Mordechai Gur, then commander of the paratroop brigade, and Brig. Gen. (Res.) Uri Ben Ari, then commander of the Harel Brigade, will visit more than 100 Jewish communities in the U.S. and Canada. "Operation Jerusalem" commemorates the 20th anniversary of the reunification of the city.

"Through the symbol of reunited Jerusalem, American Jews can now even strengthen their ties to the Jewish State," Narkiss observed. "By investing in Israel's economy, through the purchase of Israel Bonds, American Jews will make both communities closer and stronger."

JEWISH WAR VETERANS TO CREATE GROUP FOR ITS DESCENDANTS

By Steve Feldman
 Jewish Exponent Staff Writer

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- The Jewish War Veterans of the USA has laid the groundwork for its future with its first planning meeting for a new subsidiary organization, Descendants of JWV.

The goal of the new group, open to sons and daughters of Jews who have served in the U.S. military, is to aid and perpetuate the principles, policies and programs of JWV.

"We need you, the children of Jewish war veterans, to help us in certain areas," Jack Litz, JWV national judge advocate, told the prospective members of the new group who attended the meeting at the Lt. Charles Freedman Post here last week.

Litz said the new group will include men and women and is aimed at persons ages 18 to 35. He added that the organization will possibly be divided into adult and youth groups.

He told JWV members at the planning meeting that "our children must be our living extension of our organization. They must remind the world that the Holocaust happened. We need them to help us with the disabled veterans, with service to the community."

Jack Shattuck of Wilmington, the son of a World War I veteran, said he wanted to join the group to "fight the lie" that Jews have not fought to defend the country.

Steven Shaw, national executive director of JWV, said that "one day, JWV, the membership organization, will cease to be in existence" since all hope there will not be more war, and thus no more veterans. In such a case the descendants would carry on the work of JWV.

**HISTORIAN CALLS FOR RELEASE OF
SECRET BRITISH DOCUMENTS ABOUT HESS**
By Maurice Samuelson

LONDON, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- A leading British historian Tuesday called for the release of secret British documents about Rudolf Hess, Hitler's deputy who died Monday in Berlin aged 93.

Robert Rhodes James, a Conservative member of Parliament who in recent months has been sharply critical of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, said the documents, which are not due to be declassified until 2017, would cast light on Hess' daring solo flight to Britain in 1941.

In landing in Scotland six weeks before the German blitzkrieg against Russia, Hess hoped to persuade leading British politicians to make peace with Germany, thus ensuring that Hitler would not have to wage war on two fronts.

Winston Churchill, Britain's wartime leader, refused to see Hess, and had him locked up in the Tower of London. But this has never dispelled Soviet suspicions that the Western Allies wanted Germany to destroy the Soviet Union, a factor which strengthened Moscow's determination that Hess should stay locked up till his death.

The war over, Hess was put in the dock at Nuremberg alongside the other Nazi leaders. Most were put to death or committed suicide but Hess, who was not charged with crimes against humanity, was jailed for life.

Following the release of Albert Speer and Balour von Schirach 20 years ago, Hess spent the rest of his long life as the only inmate of Spandau prison where he was guarded by 600 troops at an estimated cost of 300,000 Pounds Sterling a year.

British press comments Tuesday generally deplored the failure to release him. However, it also emphasized Hess' complicity in Hitler's campaign against the Jews.

Lord Elwyn Jones, one of the Nuremberg trial prosecutors, was quoted as saying history would condemn Hess for his part in "the vilest crime in modern history -- the Holocaust." Hess, he added, "was right in the thick of the Nazi movement right from the beginning. He played a major part. He signed the Nuremberg decrees against the Jews."

Young Hess Spent Time In Jerusalem

Hess was born in Alexandria of a German father and Swiss mother. Less known is the fact that Hess' father was honorary German Consul in Jerusalem early in the century and that young Rudolf spent some time there, moving in European and missionary circles before he was sent to boarding school in Germany when he was about 13. References to young Hess' presence in Jerusalem appears in the memoirs of Bertha Spafford Vestor, whose family were among the 19th century founders of the American colony in the city.

SIGH OF RELIEF AT HESS' DEATH

By Edwin Eytan

PARIS, Aug. 18 (JTA) -- Western Europe, with a few rare exceptions, heaved a sigh of relief at the death of Rudolf Hess, Hitler's former deputy, who died Monday at the age of 93 in the British military hospital near the four-power Spandau war crimes prison where he had been serving a life term.

A British official was quoted by German Radio Tuesday as saying that Hess had apparently

committed suicide. The official was reported as saying that Hess walked into a small cabin next to his exercise ground inside the prison compound. When a guard looked in a few minutes later he found Hess' body lying on the ground with an electric wire round his neck.

The former Nazi leader was said by his son to be depressed and had asked on several occasions to be freed or put to death. German Radio commentators expressed belief that Hess' suicide might provoke new neo-Nazi demonstrations and strengthen the nationalist elements inside Germany.

Many West European leaders had given in to West German requests and backed a demand for Hess' release; others who had not gone that far feared that his continued detention risked turning him into a martyr, strengthening the neo-Nazis and other extreme right-wing movements.

Hess' body will be released to his family and flown to West Germany for burial after an autopsy. The body will be flown to Frankfurt, probably Friday morning, by a British military aircraft. Hess is survived by his wife and son.

The three Western powers, America, France and Britain, had been in favor of his release on humanitarian reasons because of his age. The Soviet Union had always opposed such a move. Moscow released a statement Tuesday reiterating its position: no pardon and no forgetfulness for Nazi crimes.

Neo-Nazis, Extremists Demonstrate

After the announcement of his death, neo-Nazis and members of rightwing organizations demonstrated in several West German cities. Skinheads, young toughs with closecropped hair, placed a wreath of red and white carnations at the foot of the Spandau prison wall in West Berlin.

In Hamburg, demonstrators marched Monday night on the British and American Consulates carrying torches and posters reading "Rudolf Hess -- a Martyr for Peace." In Frankfurt, two men in their early twenties threw gasoline bombs on U.S. military vehicles. No one was injured and there were no damages.

The French press and television stressed Tuesday, in the words of Le Monde, that "40 years after the war many in West Germany feel that the time has come for the world to take into consideration the new Germany and often considered (Hess' continued imprisonment) as a form of relentless revenge."

Nazi-hunter Serge Klarsfeld said he was glad Hess died behind bars. Klarsfeld, who spoke on television, said "Hess played an effective role in the rise of Nazism and in measures taken against the Jews. He was a close aide to Hitler and sought to help him by trying to negotiate a separate peace treaty with Britain. Had he died free, he would probably have been surrounded by the media and editors."

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- An IDF soldier and a civilian injured by shots fired at them near Gaza on Sunday were reported Tuesday in stable condition in the intensive care unit of Soroka Hospital in Beersheba. The PLO in Beirut reported Monday that the attack had been carried out by its Force 17 commando unit.



**FOCUS ON ISSUES
TROUBLE IN CAPITAL CITY**
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Jerusalem is bracing itself for what threatens to be a serious and possibly prolonged outbreak of religious-secular strife.

The ostensible issue is Friday night film screenings at the capital's Cinematheque and at a municipality-funded hall, Beit Agron. But beneath the surface lurks the much larger and more emotive issue of a soccer stadium for the city, long a matter of controversy between Jerusalem religious and secular residents.

On Wednesday, plans for the stadium overcame their last bureaucratic hurdle in the District Planning Commission. Now what remains is for the Minister of Interior to affix his signature to the formal documents, and for the work to begin, at the site in the south Jerusalem suburb of Malcha.

But easier said than done. The acting Interior Minister is none other than Premier Yitzhak Shamir. Since Shas leader Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz gave up the portfolio over the "Who is a Jew?" controversy, Shamir has nominally run this important Ministry, though in practice Peretz appointees continue to hold several key jobs, including that of Director-General.

And Shas, together with the other ultra-Orthodox parties, are applying relentless pressure on Shamir not to sign the papers for the stadium.

Weekly Tale Of Violence

Temperatures and tempers in the city itself, meanwhile, are steadily rising as each Shabbat brings its weekly tale of violence.

Last Friday night, six ultra-Orthodox stone-throwers were arrested by police in riot gear after gangs of black-clad youngsters pelted passing traffic close by the Mea Shearim Orthodox district.

The week before some 2,000 Orthodox demonstrators blocked the center of town on Saturday afternoon protesting the film shows and sporadic clashes between Orthodox and film-goers the night before. Police used tear-gas to disperse the throng.

Mass Prayer-Meeting Scheduled

A much larger -- and hopefully more peaceful -- gathering has been called for next Tuesday evening, the first day of Rosh Hodesh Elul, at the Western Wall. Agudat Yisrael City Council member Meir Porush said Wednesday that he expected tens of thousands of Orthodox people from all around the country to attend this mass prayer-meeting "to preserve the special character of Jerusalem."

Tuesday is the last day of the yeshiva summer vacations -- traditionally a peak period for such activities in the Orthodox community.

Porush said the participants next Tuesday would address their pleas to the Almighty. But he added ominously, in a radio interview, that if this failed the struggle would move on to its third stage and could get out of hand.

Porush, son of longtime Aguda MK Menachem Porush, denied that he was implying vio-

lence. But he nevertheless spoke of the Orthodox community's determination to pursue the struggle with maximum commitment and diligence. To Jerusalemites with ears attuned to the city's long history of vigorous clashes between the different sections of the Jewish populace, these terms seemed to hold out the prospect of a hot summer still ahead.

There is, moreover, a growing sense among Jerusalem's secular sector that the ultra-Orthodox, by constant immigration and high natural increase, is steadily achieving numerical preeminence among the three disparate groups which constitute the population of the Holy City: secular and modern Orthodox Jews, Palestinian Arabs, and ultra-Orthodox.

--This feeling is already leading to tangible results: a considerable number of young professional families have moved or are intending to move to the greater Tel Aviv area and they cite explicitly as their reason for doing so a subjective sense of alienation from the capital city.

One senior reporter on Israel Television, who has just bought a home in a Tel Aviv suburb, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency he and his wife were "no longer prepared to live in an Israeli city in which the Zionists are in the minority."

Trying To Cope

It was with this in mind that Mayor Teddy Kollek sallied forth last Friday night to the western exit from the city to talk to young drivers heading to the Tel Aviv area "to find something to do in the evening."

The Mayor said he and his One Jerusalem Party, which holds a narrow overall majority on the Municipal Council, would take action to "recognize the needs of the non-Orthodox... just as we have always catered to the needs of the Orthodox."

He did not specify, but his statement was enough to arouse passionate hostility from the ultra-Orthodox. The Agudat Yisrael newspaper Hamodia emblazoned on its front page an emotive headline warning that the Mayor "threatens the status quo of the Holy Sabbath in the Holy City."

**TWO WEST BANK PALESTINIANS
CHARGED WITH FOUR MURDERS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Two West Bank Palestinians were charged in the Nablus military court Tuesday with four murders, including the assassination of Nablus Mayor Zafer Al-Masri last year, and three other attempted murders.

According to the charge sheet, Ahmad Hanani, 31, of Beit Faruq near Nablus, and Muayid Abdel Samad, 25, of Anabta, near Tulkarm, shot and killed Al-Masri on the steps of the Nablus municipality in March 1986 on the orders of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

They were also charged with the murder of border policeman Jamil Faris while he was on patrol in Nablus in January 1986, and the attempted murder of his partner, Osama Ghanem.

Other charges against them included the attempted assassination of Jenin Mayor Abdallah

Lahlouh last May, also on PFLP orders, and the wounding of his driver.

Hanani is also charged with the June 1985 murder of an Israeli, Albert Buchris, as he was shopping in the Nablus market, and the attempted murder of another Israeli, Uri Dvad, in Jenin. The two men were also charged with the attempted murder of Haim Tanami, of Moshav Masua in Nablus in June 1986.

AIDS CRISIS IN ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Forty-five people suffer from AIDS in Israel and 33 have died, Israeli Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino disclosed Wednesday.

Twenty new carriers of the AIDS antibody have been discovered each month but this does not mean they will develop the disease or pass it on to others, Arbeli-Almoslino said.

Health Ministry sources said at the beginning of July, 237 people had been found to be carriers of AIDS and another 20 were discovered this month.

Four men and four women who suffered from AIDS-related ailments said they were heterosexuals.

Arbeli-Almoslino said she was considering legislation which would require all prostitutes in Israel to be examined for AIDS. She said she would also distribute one-time-use, throw-away syringes to known drug addicts in an attempt to avoid multiple use of needles which could transmit contaminated blood to other users.

An Israel Radio health affairs reporter disputed the Health Ministry figures and claimed that of 80 prostitutes examined to date, eight and not five as reported by the Ministry were found to have the AIDS virus. Seven of the women worked in the Tel Aviv area and one in Haifa.

The reporter said the figure for new virus carriers could not be verified because Magen David Adom, the only organization systematically testing blood donors, reported no new cases of AIDS for the past three months.

EL AL FLIGHTS RESUME

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- El Al was back to normal Wednesday, after over 1,000 would-be passengers had been stranded by the sudden "illness" of eight pilots on Monday.

An El Al spokesman said seven of the eight who had reported sick returned to work Tuesday, leaving only Captain Bezalel Ofer, chairman of the El Al Pilots Association, still away from the job.

The Israel airline was forced to transfer its ticket-holders to other airlines, and charter planes from other companies, delaying the departure of all its passengers.

The pilots' sudden return to health followed an announcement by the Transport Ministry's civil aviation department that it was informing Greece and Turkey that El Al was no longer Israel's official carrier to those countries, enjoying the benefits of mutual national aviation agreements.

The Ministry said it was appointing the privately-owned Arkia Airline, which usually operates Israel's internal air services, to replace El Al on those shorter international routes. Arkia, which serves Eilat and other internal Israeli

routes, occasionally flies charters to Greece and Turkey.

Meanwhile, the El Al management announced Wednesday that its financial balance sheet for 1986/87 showed an overall profit of \$15.2 million -- "the highest reported annual profit in the company's 30 years of existence, and the first reported profit since 1978/79," according to El Al president Rafael Harlev.

He said that operating profits rose to \$34.9 million before interest costs, and passenger boardings increased by 8.9 percent to 1.546 million passengers.

EXPERT DEFENSE WITNESS IN DEMJANJUK TRIAL SHAKEN BY PROSECUTION COUNSEL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- The second expert witness brought by the defense in the Jerusalem war crimes trial was beginning to lose confidence and credibility this week under the ruthless cross-examination of prosecution counsel Michael Shaked.

Shaked used the same methods with which he had questioned the expertise, last week, of document specialist Edna Robertson. Utilizing a formidable amount of background preparation on the subject, Shaked demonstrated gaps in the testimony of Swedish-born and U.S.-trained physiognomy specialist Anita Pritchard.

Pritchard has disputed the accuracy of testimony given for the prosecution by two experts -- German police investigator Reinhart Altmann, and Israeli anthropologist Patricia Smith.

Altmann had utilized photo montages that he had prepared, combining sections of the disputed photo of defendant John Demjanjuk on his alleged Nazi identity card with undisputed photos of Demjanjuk, to show that there was a "very great likelihood" that the ID photo was genuine.

Smith had shown the court a video method, again combining sections of undisputed photos with the disputed one. Demjanjuk claims that the ID card is a forgery, and that he is not the man, known as "Ivan the Terrible," who butchered hundreds of thousands of Jews at the Treblinka death camp.

Testimony By The Physiognomy Specialist

Pritchard showed the court a series of photo montages she had made combining sections of faces of different male models cut, she said, "at random" out of magazines. She said that the sections looked as if they matched, thus challenging the validity of Altmann's method.

Pritchard also showed the court a series of examples of pictures which create visual illusions, making people see only what they are conditioned to see. One example she used was a seemingly conventional picture of Abraham Lincoln. Only on close scrutiny could the viewer disassociate himself from the portrait in order to see it was made up of small pictures of animals.

Shaked's aim was to prove that Pritchard's was not an exact science. He referred to another of her visual illusion examples -- two horizontal lines of equal length, one with two outward-facing arrowheads at either end, and the other with two inverted arrowheads for ends. The viewer automatically presumes the first line to be longer. How could one persuade the viewer of the equal length of the lines, Shaked asked. "By measuring them," was Pritchard's reply.

Judge Dalia Dorner referred to Altmann's measurements of the facial features in his photo montages, and said that he had not relied only upon the visual impression the montages had created. Pritchard admitted she had made no such measurements on her random montages. She also admitted that she had no knowledge of morphology, the science of the forms, proportions and measurement of facial features. Shaked then proceeded to chip at Pritchard's use of apparently scientific terminology in her testimony. She had to admit her ignorance of the scientific implication of use of terms such as "random sample" and "correlation," reducing her to concede that as English is her second language, maybe she had used those words "inadvertently."

And then Shaked challenged Pritchard's area of expertise itself -- physiognomy, the science of judging character from facial features. He quoted basic textbooks of psychology, which relegate physiognomy to "the company of phrenology (judging personality by the contours of the skull), and the reading of palms."

Although Pritchard has based much of her testimony on distortions in perception, and had declared that the right side of the brain has a "holistic" comprehension of visual images, Shaked got her to admit that she had no basic knowledge of the workings of the eye, nor of the basics of perception.

RESUMPTION OF ISRAELI-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS SAID TO BE IMMINENT

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Hungary and Israel are expected to resume diplomatic ties, broken after the Six-Day War in 1967, this week, according to knowledgeable American Jewish figure.

The resumption of diplomatic ties has been rumored for some time but a formal announcement is imminent, he said. The two countries have agreed to exchange diplomatic representatives but will not resume full diplomatic relations which would mean an exchange of Ambassadors. The arrangement will resemble that of Israel and Poland which have exchanged consular officers.

The development follows a long process of increasing cultural, commercial and economic exchanges between Israel and Hungary and a general normalization of Israel's relations with the East European bloc.

Observers also say the renewal of diplomatic ties could not have come about without Moscow's acquiescence and probable encouragement. A Soviet official met with an Israeli official in Bonn last weekend for an unprecedented 10 hours since diplomatic ties were broken.

It is believed that the Soviet Union, which is interested in a negotiated Middle East peace settlement, is lurching toward repairing its relations with Israel in order to play a larger role in that process.

In recent months, there have been several clear signs of a thaw between Hungary and Israel. In May, the World Jewish Congress Executive met for the first time in East Europe in Budapest. Three weeks later, the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture also met in Hungary.

Last Month, WJC president Edgar Bronfman met with Janos Kadar, Hungarian Communist Party chief.

The main opposition to the renewal of ties will likely come from the Arab world. The Arab

League lodged a formal protest with the Hungarian Foreign Ministry against the World Jewish Congress meeting last May.

NOTED SOVIET PIANIST ARRIVES IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- Acclaimed refusenik pianist Vladimir Feltsman, who waged an eight-year battle to emigrate from the Soviet Union, arrived here Tuesday afternoon with his wife Anna, a biologist, and their four-year-old son, Daniel.

At a press conference at Kennedy Airport, Feltsman said, "I have a feeling that I am back to normal and in a free world. My only hope is that my family will be happy. We have paid a high price for getting here." Feltsman thanked "all Americans" for their help: "Without it, this day would never have come."

Feltsman arrived to an automatic job. Dr. Alice Chandler, president of The College at New Paltz of the State University of New York, who had worked hard in his behalf and visited him in Moscow, greeted the Feltsmans, bringing the definite offer of a teaching position at the college and throughout the State University system, which will allow him time to concertize.

Feltsman already has a definite concert date set up: He will play the White House Sept. 27.

Between 1979, the year the Feltsmans applied to emigrate, and this year, the noted musician who once gave concerts throughout Europe was not permitted to play in major cities in the USSR and his recordings were removed from the shelves and airwaves. However, Western music lovers and critics were enabled to hear some of Feltsman's recordings, including those made at the residence of then U.S. Ambassador to Moscow Arthur Hartman, who befriended the pianist. These recordings were released by CBS Masterworks. At the age of 15, Feltsman won first prize in the Concertina International Competition in Prague, followed four years later by the Marguerite Long International Competition in Paris in 1979. He is the son of renowned Soviet composer-songwriter Oskar Feltsman.

APPROVAL DELAYED FOR BELGIAN SCHOLAR NAMED TO WALDHEIM PANEL

By Yossl Lempkowitz

BRUSSELS, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- A prominent Belgian historian awaits government approval to serve on an international commission of inquiry into the World War II activities of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

Jean Van Welkenhuysen, director of the Research Center on World War II here, has been asked to participate on the Austrian-sponsored commission as a private citizen. Nevertheless, as a civil servant, he sought as a courtesy the backing of the Education Ministry.

The Education Minister for the Dutch sector, Daniel Coens, reportedly approves. However, his colleague for the French sector, Antoine Duquesne, reportedly is hesitating under the influence of Vice Premier and Justice Minister Jean Gol. Gol, the sole Jew in the government, is said to advocate a "harder" attitude toward Waldheim.

Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans has spoken in favor of the commission because he said "the accusations against Waldheim must first be proven." The commission is scheduled to begin its work in September.

**'TREE TERRORISM' IN ISRAEL
PROMPTS MASSIVE JNF CAMPAIGN**
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 19 (JTA) -- A wave of fires that has devastated Jewish National Fund forests in Israel this year has prompted the JNF to mount an all-out drive for immediate financial help. The JNF needs a minimum of \$7 million: \$2 million to replace trees recently burnt and \$5 million for fire-fighting equipment urgently needed to forestall future disasters.

Arson is strongly suspected in about 25 percent of the fires. The scope of this "tree terrorism" is unprecedented, striking at the very soul -- and soil -- of Israel.

"JNF is opening an immediate nationwide crusade to people of all faiths to help preserve the safety and integrity of our national forests," Samuel Cohen, JNF executive vice president, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in an interview at JNF headquarters here.

Last week, JNF in Israel (Keren Kayemeth L'Yisrael) organized an unprecedented nationwide fire-prevention campaign that will include widespread educational efforts.

On July 29 alone, a day the Israeli media said "will be remembered as the worst forest fire day in Israel in the last decade," four different fires near Jerusalem started within a few hours of each other, ravaging 1,150 acres of forest that included 80,000 trees.

The JNF estimates the damage for that one day's fires alone at \$2 million, making it apparent that much more will be needed to replace trees that have been lost to fires since January alone.

The four fires of July 29 disconnected Jerusalem's western neighborhoods from its electric supply for several hours, and badly damaged telephone posts as well as the water-pumping system that connects the Mediterranean coast with Jerusalem.

'A National Tragedy'

These fires affected 25 acres of pasture in the area of Mevasseret Yerushalaim; 50 acres of forest and orchards near Nataf; 150 acres in a 65-year-old forest near Ma'ale Hahamisha and Kiryat Anavim that were dedicated to Israel's national poet, Chaim Nachman Bialik; and 50 acres of the Children's Forest, located in the B'nai B'rith Martyrs' Forest, trees planted by children for children who were killed during the Holocaust. In addition, 875 acres of natural woodland were destroyed in the area, including oak, carob, pistachio and pine trees.

JNF president Joseph Sternstein called the fires "a national tragedy and a matter of national urgency." He said that "During the High Holidays, it is imperative that we declare ourselves to the replacement of every one of these forest, especially in the face of those who are employing this latest form of terrorism, arson, 14 years after the Yom Kippur War."

In the northern Galilee, fire-fighters told Cohen that there were over 150 fires in that region alone since January, more than in any prior 12-month period. There, said Cohen, "the foresters are absolutely convinced that the fires are caused by PLO-oriented Arabs."

Yitzhak Hatuel, regional supervisor of afforestation for JNF, told Israeli newspaper Hada-shot that workers from the West Bank who travel to work and return home each day cross the Beit Shemesh bridge and stop to throw incendiary

devices, made of matches tied with string around lit cigarettes, into flammable shrubs alongside the forest. "When the fire reaches the matches, they ignite in one blow," said Hatuel. The workers are about 20 kilometers down the road to Hebron by the time the fire is detected, making apprehension almost impossible.

Some Arsonists Apprehended

The day the four fires were set near Jerusalem, a pilot for JNF, Uri Goldschmit, was on a routine inspection flight when he saw a column of smoke rising and three men running away. Two of them succeeded in escaping, but a third had stopped to change from khaki clothes to an Arab djellaba. Goldschmit shadowed him and radioed for help.

The man was caught and interrogated and he identified his two partners. The three were from the village of Ararah. They are being detained on suspicion of trying to set fire to Iyron Forest "on nationalistic grounds." That same week, three youths from the village of Bar Ta'ah were stopped on suspicion that they belonged to a gang that set forest fires "on nationalistic grounds."

Two months prior, three youths who were residents of the area around Hebron were caught while attempting to set fire to Netiv Halamed Hay. After several hours' interrogation by Beit Shemesh police, they reportedly confessed.

Said Cohen: "What is devastating -- and this is what is heart-rending -- is that some of these fires are clearly aimed at touching on the nerves, on the emotions, of Israel. How do you replenish a forest of trees that were planted by children in honor of children who perished in the Holocaust? And the very fact that there was a fire in an area known as the Martyrs' Forest to honor the memory of Jews who were killed during the Holocaust can't be accidental. It's a terrible, terrible blow."

The JNF is not singling out Arabs as the main agents of arson. Many JNF workers are Arab, performing the most trusted, and crucial, tasks, from planting to guarding the forests. The JNF spokesman in Israel, David Angel, told the press that most forest fires are caused by farmers who burn crop byproducts, unauthorized and unsupervised by JNF. In addition, there are fires started by careless hikers who toss smoldering cigarettes, or by campers who do not properly extinguish bonfires. There are also incidences of fires begun as a result of army training exercises, in which a single spark from a bullet or artillery shell suffices to ignite combustible growth, Angel explained.

Israel, and JNF specifically, are well-equipped to contend with disastrous fires. Hundreds of volunteers from kibbutzim, moshavim and other settlements fought the blazes with hoses and fire-beaters, while crop dusters dropped water on the flames. The only official fire-fighting unit that could attend the fires in the Jerusalem area came from Beit Shemesh. Fire-houses in Rehovot and Ramla could not respond to the appeals because they were busy with local fires in fields and woods. Cohen said that JNF is now seeking to establish a sophisticated communications network between foresters and a central post; purchase additional, modern fire-fighting trucks; and lease special planes. Cohen spoke of the 'hurt and anguish' he saw in the eyes of the foresters. A veteran forester told him and JNF chairman Moshe Rivlin, "When you saw the flames, you heard the trees crying."

**HESS DEATH SPARKS NEO-NAZI ACTIVITY**

BONN, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- The normally peaceful Bavarian town of Wunsiedel near the Czechoslovakian border braced for violence and terror over the weekend as the funeral for Adolf Hitler's deputy Rudolf Hess, who died last week in an apparent suicide, drew throngs of European neo-Nazis under heavy police protection.

Police said Sunday more than 200 had arrived in Hess' hometown for the funeral expected to take place Wednesday and many more were in transit including neo-Nazi sympathizers from Britain and The Netherlands. Police detained 88 neo-Nazis in the area in the past two days.

A group of neo-Nazis dressed in black and some masked marched into the cemetery where Hess requested to be buried, shouting "Revenge for Hess," and signaling the "Heil Hitler" Nazi salute. Local officials later banned all open gatherings in the town related to Hess and closed off the cemetery to the unwelcome visitors.

In Frankfurt, police arrested two young neo-Nazis who placed a bomb which did not go off in the city's central railway station.

Hess' funeral has been delayed by a request for a second autopsy by his son Wolf-Ruediger Hess, who has disputed the findings of prison officials that Hess, 93, committed suicide with an electrical wire. Hess died in Spandau prison, controlled by the four wartime Allied powers, the U.S., France, Britain and the Soviet Union. He was the sole prisoner in Spandau for more than two decades.

Hess sympathizers demonstrated outside the embassies of the four Allied powers over the weekend and distributed flyers claiming Hess did not commit suicide but was actually murdered.

West Germany's Internal Security Service prepared for increased neo-Nazi violence and terror and beefed up security all around the small town.

Hess, the last remaining high-ranking official in the Nazi hierarchy, lived in Spandau since 1946 when he was sentenced to life imprisonment at the Nuremberg trials. He was captured in Scotland in 1941 when he parachuted into Britain in what some claim was an effort to negotiate a peace between Britain and Germany.

**CANADIAN WAR CRIMES BILL
CLOSER TO ENACTMENT**

OTTAWA, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- The Canadian Parliament, meeting in special session, moved closer Thursday to amending the Criminal Code to allow for the prosecution of alleged Nazi war criminals residing in Canada.

The House of Commons approved a second reading of the bill, and promised a third and final reading by the end of August. Government leaders had hoped Parliament would pass the bill in a hurry before it recessed for the summer June 30, but couldn't gain the unanimous approval needed to circumvent committee consideration.

The Thursday approval was welcomed by B'nai B'rith Canada. "We applaud the federal government for living up to its commitment to deal with this problem that has been a black

mark on our nation's history since World War II," said Frank Dimant, executive vice president. Added David Matas, senior counsel for the League for Human Rights of B'nai B'rith Canada, "After 42 years we are relieved to be moving closer to seeing that provisions are in place to ensure that Nazi war criminals are brought to justice.

"To me, this was the real emergency to recall Parliament. It is important that justice be done before it's too late. Once the legislation is passed, it is essential that prosecutions be launched immediately."

The special session was called to deal with amendments to the nation's immigration law. Passage of the Criminal Code amendment seems imminent.

**SHAMIR, PERES AGAIN POSTPONE
CABINET VOTE ON LAVI JET**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- Israel's oft-postponed decision whether to build the Lavi jet fighter will be delayed again. Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres decided Friday to scrap plans for a Lavi vote at the Sunday Cabinet meeting.

The cited reason is the lack of a majority of Ministers in support of the second-generation Israeli jet.

The defense establishment, which wants the project stopped because it says the expense would detract from defense necessities, is concerned that some wavering Ministers may eventually vote for the project.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Finance Minister Moshe Nissim both firmly rejected last week various package proposals from Ministers in support of the jet and Israel Aircraft Industries, its designated manufacturer.

**POPE AS YOUNG PRIEST AFTER HOLOCAUST
REFUSED TO BAPTIZE JEWISH CHILD
AGAINST HIS DEAD PARENTS' WISHES**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- The personal story of an American Jewish man who as a child during the Holocaust was hidden by a Polish Catholic couple demonstrates a respect for Judaism by the young priest who became Pope John Paul II.

In an account of the saving of little Shachne Hiller, recorded in "Hasidic Tales of the Holocaust" (Avon Books, NY, 1982), Hiller, renamed Stanley Berger, told author/editor Yaffa Eliach that in 1946 a newly ordained priest named Karol Wojtyla refused to baptize him a Catholic despite a request by the woman who had cared for him as her own.

Berger told Eliach that through a letter from the woman in Poland who had saved him, he learned that she, Mrs. Yachowitch, had approached "a newly ordained parish priest who had a reputation for being wise and trustworthy" to convert him "as a true Christian and devout Catholic" after she knew for certain that his parents had died in the crematoria. The priest refused after asking what was the wish of the

boys' parents in entrusting him to their Christian friends. Yachowitch acknowledged that his parents, in face of their almost certain death, requested that their son be raised as a Jew, to which Father Wojtyla replied that "it would be unfair to baptize the child while there was still hope that the relatives of the child might take him."

Three Letters And A Will

In 1942, when the boy's parents, Helen and Moses Hiller, realized what their probable fate would be in the Cracow ghetto where they lived, Helen Hiller took her little son Shachne to trusted Catholic family friends on the Aryan side in the town of Dombrowa to be hidden. She left with her son three letters and a will.

In a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Yachowitch, the Hillers asked that the couple bring the boy up as a Jew and return him to his people in case of his parents' death. The Hillers included in that letter the names of relatives in Montreal and Washington.

In a letter to Shachne, his parents wrote how much they loved him, told him of his Jewish heritage and that they wanted him to grow up proud of this.

The third letter contained a will written by Helen Hiller's mother, Reizel Wurtzel, and was addressed to her sister-in-law in Washington, Jenny Berger. Describing the true conditions in the ghetto, the deaths of family members and the deportations, she wrote that her grandson had been "given to good people," but that if none of them should return to please take the child and "bring him up righteously." She also asked that the Yachowitches be rewarded for their efforts to save Shachne.

The Cracow ghetto was liquidated in March 1943. Many inhabitants were sent to Auschwitz. The Yachowitches inquired constantly after the Hillers and finally learned they had perished.

The Catholic family moved around frequently, at times even hiding in barns and haystacks. Shachne and the Yachowitches became increasingly attached to each other, and the boy attended mass with them regularly. In 1946, the request that the child be baptized was made to Wojtyla, who refused, saying "there was still hope that the relatives of the child might take him."

Yachowitch then mailed the letters to the relatives in the U.S. and Canada, and both responded affirmatively their desire to take Shachne. A legal battle ensued for four years because Polish law forbade Polish orphan children to leave Poland. However, in 1949 the Canadian Jewish Congress received permission from the Canadian government to bring 1,210 orphans to that country. Shachne was among them because a Polish judge had awarded the boy to representatives of the Canadian and American relatives.

In 1950, he was sent to Washington, D.C., where he was adopted and grew up as Stanley Berger, and continued to write to his foster parents in Poland. In October 1978, when Karol Wojtyla became Pope John Paul II, Mrs. Yachowitch wrote to Stanley Berger, revealing to him for the first time that she had considered converting him to Catholicism, but was denied this wish by a well-meaning priest who had now become Pope.

MIDEAST CALM ENDING RABIN WARNS NEW OFFICERS By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- The Middle East is nearing the end of a six-to-10-year period of "relative calm," Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in an address before graduates of the Israel Defense Force Staff and Command College Thursday. He noted that in the past few years the threat of imminent war with the Arab armies had been remote, but he added that Israel has erred in predicting the outbreak of war. He said the State must "learn the lesson and be attentive to changes which may occur."

He added that unlike some other armies, the IDF cannot assume there will be no war in the next few years.

In two weeks, Rabin is scheduled to go on a four-day official visit to West Germany, where he will hold talks with West German defense officials and visit Holocaust sites. He will be the first Israeli Defense Minister to visit Germany.

Northern Command Maj. Gen. Yossi Peled, a Holocaust survivor, will accompany Rabin.

DISCREDITED DEMJANJUK TRIAL WITNESS ATTEMPTS SUICIDE

JERUSALEM, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- Anita Pritchard, the Swedish-born and U.S.-trained physiology expert whose evidence was discredited by the prosecution in the John Demjanjuk war crimes trial here last week, attempted suicide in Tel Aviv Friday.

Defense counsel Yoram Sheftel took her to the hospital after Pritchard swallowed a large amount of aspirins and slashed one wrist in her hotel room. She was treated and released. Sources said she intended to leave Israel immediately.

Pritchard, from Houston, Texas, last week challenged the assertions by prosecution expert witnesses that the face of defendant Demjanjuk matched that on the World War II identity card that the prosecution claims belonged to "Ivan the Terrible," the sadistic Treblinka guard.

But prosecutor Michael Shaked impugned Pritchard's expertise and academic credentials, and got her to admit she had overextended herself in offering opinions on various key technical points.

SIX GUSH EMUNIM SETTLEMENTS IN WEST BANK REPORTED DESERTED

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- Six Gush Emunim settlements in the West Bank have been abandoned, Al Hamishmar reported Friday. Gush Emunim comprises Orthodox Jewish settlers.

The newspaper reported that a correspondent who visited the Har Bracha settlement near Nablus on Wednesday found locked buildings and a pile of two-month-old unclaimed mail. After an hour of wandering he encountered a lone woman settler from one of the four families still at the site out of 34. "It's sad to see this place empty," she said.

Uri Elitzur, a member of the Amana Gush Emunim settlement organization, said a social crisis had caused the families to leave. He admitted that five other settlements are in a similar situation.

VANUNU'S BROTHER TO ASK BRITAIN FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- Meir Vanunu, brother of Mordechai Vanunu who is awaiting trial in Israel on charges of selling the State's nuclear secrets to a British newspaper, will ask Britain for political asylum, according to a Jerusalem Post report.

"I have no desire to set foot in Israel for many years," Meir Vanunu told the Post's London correspondent.

Meir has attempted to drum up support for his brother abroad. This week, Vanunu said he plans to visit Paris to meet with the "council for the defense" group set up there to work on behalf of his brother. He said he will also visit Italy where a magistrate has launched an investigation into reports that the Mossad illegally spirited Mordechai out of Italy.

Meir claims an attractive female Mossad agent lured his brother from London to Italy, drugged him and brought him against his will to Israel aboard an Israeli vessel.

Mordechai, a former technician at the Dimona nuclear facility, had emigrated to Australia and converted to Christianity when he sold to The Times of London a detailed account (including pictures) of an allegedly secret facility at Dimona for the production of nuclear weapons.

Amnesty International, the international human rights agency, has requested to send an observer to the Vanunu trial but the Attorney General has denied the petition. Vanunu has requested a trial in open court.

JERUSALEM BRACING ITSELF FOR VIOLENCE

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- Orthodox leaders in Jerusalem warned Sunday that their communities would respond "vigorously" next weekend to the opening of four cinema clubs here last Friday night. But secular leaders, buoyed by a high turnout at the film clubs, vowed to open two more next week.

A spokesman for the Eda Haredit ultra-Orthodox community, centered in Mea Shearim, said the community had "behaved like good boys last Shabbat, but we will not behave that way next time."

Avraham Yosef Lezerson, an Agudat Yisrael councilman, termed last Friday night "a black Shabbat" for Jerusalem, and said Mayor Teddy Kollek and the film organizers would "carry a heavy responsibility" for the consequences. "The status quo has been torn apart...we will not stand idly by," Lezerson warned.

There were only sporadic incidents of rioting in Jerusalem during this past Shabbat, due to a strong reinforcement of the city's police force. Mounted and riot-equipped policemen patrolled the exits to Mea Shearim on Friday night, and allowed only token groups of Orthodox to stage carefully limited protests against the film screenings. On Saturday afternoon the police had to use water cannons to contain a renewed outbreak, but by and large the fears of wholesale violence in Jerusalem proved premature.

In Haifa, however, Orthodox demonstrations against Sabbath desecration there turned nasty, and three Israel Radio reporters were severely beaten. The town's Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi, Shear-Yashuv Cohen, called on religious residents to

help police bring the miscreants to justice. The Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox communities in the capital are preparing, meanwhile, for a mass show of strength at the Western Wall Monday afternoon. Leading Aguda-affiliated rabbis, among them Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach, a noted halachist, and Rabbi Shalom Eliashiv, a former leading dayan, have called on religious people from all over the country to participate in a prayer-demonstration and tens of thousands are expected to attend.

Kollek, meanwhile, plans to set up a select committee to consider ways of offering nonreligious Jerusalemites Friday night cultural activities without offending the sensibilities of the Orthodox.

The secularist front, comprising Mapam, Citizens Rights Movement, Shinui, the Reform movement and unaffiliated secularists has called on the city officials to recognize that the high turnout at the film clubs on Friday -- there were 1,000 people turned away from the Beit Agron cinema club alone for lack of tickets -- shows the need for entertainment and culture in the capital for the non-Orthodox sector.

A Shocking Incident

In a related incident, Israeli police bussed in hundreds of reinforcements to Jerusalem Friday as tensions in the city rose dangerously following the shearing-off of a young Orthodox boy's "peyot" (side curls) last Thursday night.

Photographs of 11-year-old Nahum Hanun before and after the thug clipped the peyot in a Mea Shearim street were featured prominently in most Israeli papers Friday -- and sent a shudder of shock through the entire country. The imagery immediately conveyed to many people's minds was that of the Holocaust, and secular and religious leaders joined in condemning the act.

Nevertheless, police feared the attack would exacerbate an already tense situation. After three straight weekends of rioting over the Friday-night cinema issue here, Orthodox rabbis have called for a mass prayer meeting at the Western Wall Monday night, where more than 100,000 people were expected.

ISRAELI GIRL AWAKENS FROM COMA FOLLOWING HER NEAR DROWNING

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- A five-year-old girl awoke apparently fine from a five-day coma in an Afula hospital Thursday following her near drowning in Lake Kinneret. Doctors said she began breathing without the help of a life-support system, recognized her parents and showed no signs of brain damage.

The family, from Rehovot, had been vacationing near the lake last Sunday. Upon realizing the girl was missing, bathers searched the area. One searcher spotted her body and pulled it from the water. She had no pulse and had turned blue.

No trained medical personnel were available, but a boy on the shore recollected a demonstration he had seen on television and applied pressure to her chest until a Magen David Adom intensive care ambulance arrived. Six minutes elapsed before she received oxygen.

For five days the girl remained in a coma at the Emek Hospital, attached to life support machines. Doctors said her recovery without brain damage from a five-day coma, after six minutes without oxygen, is "extremely rare."

BEHIND THE HEADLINES
THE HANDWRITING ON THE GREAT WALL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- A kosher restaurant in Beijing and a Jewish studies conference in 1988 for Chinese scholars in Shanghai--these are two prospects that have come into view following a recent visit to the People's Republic of China by leaders of the Asia-Pacific Jewish Association (APJA).

Senior Chinese scholars, however, guided by their Foreign Ministry, rejected the suggestion that a meeting of Asian Jewish colloquiums' international steering committee be held in Beijing, with scholars from Israel and the West attending. They indicated that this would be too sensitive and premature.

Other agreements tentatively reached between the APJA delegation and leaders of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences include:

- * Sets of the Encyclopedia Judaica and other Jewish source material will be presented to six leading research and academic libraries in China.

- * Video and audio tapes on Jewish topics will be made available for wide distribution.

- * Chinese scholars will be invited to attend the Third Asian Jewish Colloquium in 1989, and to attend other international Jewish conferences, possibly in Israel. Jewish-studies scholars, possibly from Israel, will be invited to China.

- * More tourist visas will be granted to Israeli citizens -- but still within limitations.

Sensitivity In Beijing

The president of the APJA, Australian tourism tycoon Isi Leibler, and vice president Sam Lipski say they found "no evidence . . . of any short-term prospect of a change in the status quo" between Israel and China. They say there is much sensitivity in Beijing "to the climate created by exaggerated speculation" in the Israeli media and by "over-cager Israeli politicians," and that this is "counter-productive."

They told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that they were especially anxious to acquaint informed American Jewish leadership and opinion of their efforts in China.

Leibler and Lipski had apparently hoped to be able to hold a session of their colloquium steering committee in Beijing, following the participation at the second colloquium in Hong Kong last March of Chinese scholar and establishment figure Prof. Sidney Shapiro (Sha Boli).

Shapiro lectured at the colloquium on the history of the Jews of Kaifeng, and he has retained a warm relationship with the APJA since then. He is to visit Australia in 1988.

But the APJA leaders were turned down. They are understood to believe that Arab diplomatic pressure on the Chinese Foreign Ministry, and the general waiting mood in Beijing in advance of the 13th Communist Party Congress in October, have led to extreme circumspection on the part of Chinese academics with whom they are in contact.

The most senior among these are Prof. Zhao Fusan, a vice president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and director of its Institute of World Religions, and Dr. Li Shenzi, also an academy vice president and director of its Institute of American Studies. Zhao, who is a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative

Committee and considered a ranking cultural-ideological figure, told the APJA that there are some 20 scholars throughout China involved in one way or another with Jewish studies.

Their greatest problem was a dearth of source material, he said. The academy had recently translated Martin Buber's "I and Thou" and Abba Eban's "My People" into Chinese.

Zhao agreed with the APJA that collections of basic Jewish resource works, especially in philosophy, poetry and archaeology, would be distributed to the Academy of Social Sciences' own documentation center, to the Chinese National Library, to Beijing University, to Fudan University in Shanghai, to the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, and to the Nanking Theological Seminary.

He conceded that the level of Jewish studies research was not high, but singled out for special mention Prof. Hsu Ding Xin, an Old Testament scholar at the Nanking Seminary and a pupil of the late Dr. J.F. Li, who graduated from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem in the 1930's.

Beginning Of A Cultural Dialogue

Zhao also welcomed the APJA's readiness to help towards arranging a conference of Chinese scholars of Jewish studies, to be held in Shanghai next year. One or two outstanding Jewish studies scholars from the West would attend this conference, along with some of the Chinese academics active in the field.

While the participation obviously would not be large, Zhao felt the conference could be an important beginning of a cultural dialogue.

It was Zhao who, to the surprise of the two Jewish leaders, raised the idea of a kosher facility in Beijing. He said it could serve as a tangible presence of Jewish ethnic culture. Leibler and Lipski accordingly began discussing the project with the Sheraton Great Wall Hotel, which is a Western businessmen's favorite hostelry in Beijing.

Regarding Israeli tourists, Leibler was told by an authoritative official that there was no problem for them to receive visas provided they consisted of no more than 30-40 percent of a tour group.

There has been a fall-off recently in the number of visas granted to Israelis seeking to tour China.

**NEW LICENSING TEST FOR DOCTORS
MAY KEEP SOVIET JEWS FROM ISRAEL**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 23 (JTA) -- A group of Soviet Jewish physicians is reconsidering plans to immigrate to Israel due to a new Israeli law requiring all new-immigrant doctors to undergo professional tests before being licensed to practice medicine in this country.

Ephraim Feinblum, chairman of the Association of Immigrants from the Soviet Union in Israel, said he received this news over the phone from Soviet Jewish activists in Moscow. "This amendment will have disastrous consequences for aliya," he said.

The Health Ministry said some recent immigrant doctors have shown a low professional level, so the tests are necessary. Since 1971, about 3,700 doctors from Eastern Europe have settled in Israel, according to Feinblum.

**WAR CRIMES BILL PROGRESSING
IN CANADIAN PARLIAMENT**

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- Proposed legislation that would allow for the prosecution of alleged Nazi war criminals in the country is making steady progress through Parliament during the current special session.

The Legislative Committee of the House of Commons is scheduled to take up the proposed amendments to the Criminal Code Monday and may call Holocaust survivors to testify.

Minister of Justice Ray Hnatyshyn spoke in support of the amendments before the full house. "The Canadian people find it necessary to insure that some people do not avoid prosecution by maintaining that the acts of omission they are charged with were legal in their place of commission. In case of 'war crimes' and 'crimes against humanity,' international law must have precedence over domestic law," he said.

Effect Of New Legislation

Besides changing the Criminal Code, the war crimes legislation would also amend the Immigration Act, adding a new class of persons inadmissible to Canada. They would include, the Minister said, "persons who, there are reasonable grounds to believe, have committed a war crime or crime against humanity as these concepts are defined in the amendments to the criminal code."

Under the proposed amendment, the Minister of Immigration could select any willing country as a site of deportation for such an undesirable.

Also speaking in favor of the amendments was Robert Kaplan, a Liberal Member of the House and former Solicitor General of Canada under Premier Pierre Elliott Trudeau. Kaplan said he wished such legislation "had been done by past governments including the government of which I was a part."

He added that not only Nazis and their collaborators would be affected by the new bill. "There are other victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity who are living in our country," he said. "...Atrocities have been committed outside of war, against victims who have found haven in our country." He noted that any individual inside Canada, even a tourist, would be eligible for prosecution as a war criminal or criminal against humanity.

The amendments would alter what Prof. Irwin Cotler has called "a bureaucratization of horror," according to Svend Robinson of the New Democratic Party.

The Criminal Code amendments had been introduced late in the regular Parliamentary session that ended June 30. Supporters couldn't muster the unanimous vote required to circumvent the committee and rapidly pass the bill. Passage is expected soon.

WAITING FOR AN ANSWER FROM MOSCOW

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- Soviet emigre David Goldfarb and his wife, Cecilia, were left unsure after visiting the Soviet Consulate

here Tuesday whether they will be given a temporary visa to go to Moscow to visit their daughter, Olga.

Consulate officials said the request would be considered, but the decision would have to come from Moscow, the Goldfarbs' son, Alex, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency after the 15-minute meeting at which he also was present.

"I don't know what will happen," Alex said. "The ball is in their court. We have to sit and wait." He described the Consulate as "noncommittal, formal and polite."

Alex Goldfarb said they stressed to the Soviet Consulate the need for a decision to be made on the visa as soon as possible for medical reasons. Goldfarb suffered a stroke in June. They were informed that the final decision for the visa would be made in Moscow.

Goldfarb, 69, a retired geneticist, came to the U.S. nearly a year ago on board the jet of billionaire industrialist Armand Hammer in a private deal worked out with Soviet officials. A seven-year-refusenik, Goldfarb did not go through the normal procedure in which Soviet emigres must relinquish their citizenship. But as Soviet citizens they still require permission to go in and out of the Soviet Union.

Goldfarb said Monday in New York that he was prepared to risk going to Moscow without the promise that he would be allowed to return to the U.S. But he hopes that Olga and her family, whose emigration is pending, will be allowed to join them in New York. The elder Goldfarbs will remain in Washington a few days visiting relatives. Alex Goldfarb left Tuesday to return to New York.

**BOTHA PLEDGES TO DEFEND SOUTH AFRICAN
JEWS AGAINST ANY NEO-NAZI ATTACKS**

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- President P.W. Botha promised South Africa's 110,000-member Jewish community that his government would protect them against any neo-Nazi attacks. This statement Tuesday came after an upsurge of neo-Nazi activity prompted by the death of Rudolf Hess last week.

White extremists, who view Botha as too liberal towards Blacks and are overtly anti-Semitic, enraged South African Jews by eulogizing Hess. A memorial service, complete with Nazi salutes, was held by a neo-Nazi group last week at Pretoria's cenotaph.

Other neo-Nazi activity included the laying of a wreath commemorating Hess in the Indian Ocean city of Durban, and in north Johannesburg, a businessman raised a huge swastika at his plush home and distributed T-shirts displaying pictures of Hitler to his family.

The extreme right-wing Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB), which has attracted mounting support this year, warned Jewish critics. Its leader, Eugene Terreblanche, said if Jews complained about AWB tributes to Hess they "would make life very difficult for themselves."

In reaction to these events, Botha made a special statement to Parliament saying: "As long as this government is in power, there will be no hesitation to act against any elements which

threaten or defame any of our communities or minority groups. For this purpose, existing measures will be applied strictly." He added, "If that does not prove sufficient, additional measures will be submitted to Parliament for approval."

In the past, Botha's ruling National Party itself used anti-Semitic propaganda. In the 1940's they portrayed Dutch-descent Afrikaner whites as victims of exploitation by the Jewish business community.

In addressing the Parliament Tuesday, Botha said: "I want to tell the Jewish community of South Africa: We appreciate your contribution to the economic, cultural and technological achievements of our fatherland." He stressed, "We reject racial superiority. We reject religious coercion."

ISRAELI ENVOY RIPS GLASNOST

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- The new Soviet policies of "glasnost" (openness) and "perestroika" (renewal) have meant little to Soviet Jews, Israeli Ambassador to the UN Pinchas Eliav stated at a recent meeting of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

He deplored the prohibitions against Jewish expression and education. "Jews are not even allowed to attend Hebrew courses given in Soviet universities for Christian theological students," he declared. "No Hebrew books can be published and no printed material on Jewish subjects is available in any language apart from the 7,000 copies of the monthly Soviet Homeland."

He said 400,000 Jews have expressed the desire to go to Israel, but that in recent years their emigration has been limited to about 1,000 annually. He welcomed the increase this year to about 4,000, but noted that the current rate would mean another 700 months (58-plus years) for the 400,000 to leave.

WORKERS RELEASE PLANT MANAGERS THEY HOLD HOSTAGE FOR 38 HOURS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- Some 1,300 employes of the Soltam arms and munitions factory in the Jezreel Valley town of Yokneam released three managers they held hostage in the factory for 38 hours because the managers refused to bargain with the workers.

The three Histadrut and plant managers, Yeshayahu Gavish, general manager of the Histadrut's giant Koor industrial complex, Arnon Gafny, board chairman of the Koor complex which owns Soltam, and Elazar Barak, Soltam general manager, had been held within the main building.

Histadrut Secretary General Yisrael Kessar finally persuaded the workers to release managers by pledging to begin immediate negotiations on alternatives to save the Soltam plant from complete shutdown. The details of this plan have not been disclosed, as a number of points are still being hammered out.

The dispute began Sunday morning when workers who had been on a five-week enforced vacation all returned to work although there was not sufficient work for all.

Gavish and Gafny arrived at the factory for a meeting with Barak to outline to the workers the various plans being considered by the plant. The employes then locked the managers in the main building and refused to listen to the plans.

Upon their release, the three said they were not treated badly but would not negotiate under duress.

Plant Has Fallen On Hard Times

Observers said the downfall of the Soltam plant, once one of the country's major heavy equipment and armaments producers, began more than a decade ago with the fall of the Shah of Iran. The Shah was a major purchaser of Soltam products, including heavy artillery. But the revolutionary regime which deposed the Shah did not continue the contracts. For a short while, sales continued to other countries but as the market dried up, Soltam's orders declined.

Koor and Soltam management has been criticized for failing to cut back production years ago when the decline became apparent. Instead, management continued full production and amassed a tremendous stockpile of equipment and weapons.

A year ago, the Israel Defense Force also cut back its orders to Soltam after a reduction in the defense budget. It then became evident that many workers would have to be laid off.

In a similar labor dispute, the Haifa area police have begun questioning the 120 employes of the Rom Carmel factory who have locked themselves in the factory at Tirat Hacarmel for nearly two weeks. Rom Carmel's parent company, Ordan, complained to police that the workers were violating a court order to vacate the factory.

SIX IDF SOLDIERS WOUNDED

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- Six IDF soldiers were wounded in the south Lebanon security zone Tuesday when their patrol inadvertently entered a South Lebanon Army (SLA) minefield. The injured men were evacuated to a hospital in Haifa.

In another incident Tuesday, a Nepalese UNIFIL soldier was killed near Yaater village in the security zone and three others were wounded when they were shot in an ambush. They were attacked by six men dressed in civilian clothes, UNIFIL sources said.

GANG OF TERRORISTS DISCOVERED

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- A gang of West Bank terrorists was recently discovered before it carried out planned attacks against Israel. Israel Radio reported that the gang members were from Tulkarm, Kalkilya, Nablus and Bethlehem, who acted under orders from Amman.

The gang included a man trained in Afghanistan by Afghan rebels in the use of remote-controlled explosives, and a 25-year-old woman who had been instructed to serve as a suicide bomber, driving an explosive-laden car and detonating it with herself in it in a crowded Israeli center.

MAJOR UJA DONORS FIND THEMSELVES ON A BUMPY RIDE IN JERUSALEM HILLS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- One-hundred-and-fifty major United Jewish Appeal donors are in Israel on the three-day annual Prime Minister's Mission.

The group was transported to Jerusalem Monday at the start of the visit in unconventional style, aboard command cars on the unpaved "Burma Road." The road was carved out of the

hills in 1948 to circumvent the marauding Arab bands who had prevented supplies from reaching Jerusalem. The group's somewhat uncomfortable journey served to illustrate one of the main themes of the Mission -- Israel's struggle for independence.

The Mission members, who were taken straight from a supersonic Concord to their spruced-up command cars at the nearby former British police fortress at Latrun, will be visiting modern military installations as well. But, according to UJA president Stanley Horowitz, a large part of the program will entail visiting UJA funded projects run by the Jewish Agency and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

JEWISH JOURNALIST TAPPED AS NEXT U.S. ENVOY TO AUSTRIA

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- Henry Grunwald was a teenager when he fled his native Vienna in 1940 to escape Nazi occupation. Twenty-eight years later, he is expected to return to Vienna next year as the next U.S. Ambassador.

Although Grunwald, editor-in-chief of Time magazine, will not be the first Jewish ambassador to Austria -- the current ambassador Ronald Lauder is also Jewish -- his background and the current political situation in Austria makes Grunwald's nomination particularly significant. Last year the Austrians elected as President Kurt Waldheim, the former Secretary General of the United Nations, who has been accused of involvement in atrocities while serving in the Germany Army from 1942 to 1945. Earlier this year the Department of Justice placed Waldheim on its "Watch List" of undesirable persons which bars him from entry into the U.S.

Grunwald, who was scheduled to retire from Time at the end of the year, reportedly apparently resigned from Time last week. He could not be reached for comment.

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of international relations for the American Jewish Committee, praised Grunwald as a "world-class act, a man of first-rate intellect. To appoint him as Ambassador to Vienna is a sign that our government is both concerned to what is happening to Austria-U.S. relations and the extent of our desire to try to heal the relations so strained because of the Waldheim business," he said.

Tanenbaum said the real issue is what Grunwald does with the Austrian people, not what he does with Waldheim, who as President has only ceremonial functions. Grunwald could be a source of moral confidence and support to the small Austrian Jewish community. He could also help Austrians deal with repression and denial of their Nazi past, he noted.

"A Henry Grunwald who comes into the scene with skill and sensitivity can help advance that whole movement of facing the past and dealing with it," Tanenbaum said. "There's an enormous amount of work that can be done by very diplomatic, statesmanlike building of bridges there and mobilizing constructive democratic forces in the society and helping bring the weight of American democracy behind that of the democratic forces in Austrians."

But Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, said Grunwald will have to walk a "tight rope" by minimizing contact with Waldheim. "He can't be known as a trailblazer in bringing about Waldheim's rehabilitation. He has a

dilemma in accepting the job. He has to be clever enough to signal to those people in the Jewish community that he is not appeasing Waldheim," Hier said. "Mr. Grunwald has a lot of work to do. He has to minimize contact. So long as he's a shadow, he can't act as a broker."

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, agreed that "his objective is to walk that thin line which distinguishes Austria from Waldheim."

But he added: "It is symbolic that not only do we have an Ambassador who is a Jew, but in addition, an Ambassador who is a refugee. The symbolism of that will not be lost on the Austrians nor should it be. I think America is saying to Austria that there are dark shadows of your past that have recently seen the light of day. Mr. Grunwald will be the living remainder of that shadow."

COURT ORDERS COMMENCEMENT MOVED FROM SATURDAY FOR OBSERVANT JEW

NEW YORK, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- A federal court in New York ruled last week that a school board must reschedule its 1988 high school graduation so that a Sabbath-observing student can attend without violating his religious beliefs.

The lawsuit was filed by the American Jewish Congress on behalf of David Smith, 17, who alleged that the North Babylon (NY) School Board's decision to hold graduation exercises on a Saturday violated Smith's First Amendment right to free exercise of religion.

Smith, an observant Jew, will be a senior at North Babylon Senior High School this fall. With the help of his father, Rabbi Richard Smith, David Smith had requested that the school board move the 1988 graduation to a day other than Saturday. When the North Babylon School Board unanimously refused Smith's request, AJCongress filed the suit.

In a 38-page opinion issued August 11, District Judge Jacob Mishler of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York ruled that in refusing Smith's request to move the graduation day, the school board placed "an unconstitutional burden" on Smith's "First Amendment right to the free exercise of his religious beliefs not to engage in secular activities on the Sabbath."

Court Rejects The Main Arguments

The court rejected all three of the main arguments that the School Board raised in defense of its decision not to move the Saturday graduation.

The court ruled that because Smith's inability to attend a Saturday graduation is rooted in his religious belief, his request triggered the protection of the First Amendment's Free Exercise Clause. The court also ruled that graduation exercise was an "important benefit" that Smith would be deprived of if held on a Saturday, so the Saturday graduation imposed an "unconstitutional burden" on Smith's free exercise.

Mishler distinguished a graduation from sporting events, dances and stage productions because it is "conducted as part of and as an extension of the education program."

Finally, the court held that the school board did not prove that it had a "compelling interest" to justify retaining Saturday as a graduation day. Under current law, proof of a "compelling interest" would be sufficient to overcome a claimed burden on free exercise rights.

JEW S MOURN BAYARD RUSTIN

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 24 (JTA) -- Leaders of Jewish organizations joined in mourning the passing of Bayard Rustin, chairman of the A. Philip Randolph Institute and one of the foremost civil rights and labor leaders in this country. Rustin, 75, died at Lenox Hill Hospital Monday of a heart attack following surgery Friday for a ruptured appendix.

Rustin's long-time ties to the Jewish people and Israel and his unflagging support of the labor movement and the civil rights movement earned him profound respect among Jews as well as Blacks. But his advocacy of Black-Jewish cooperation and his condemnation of increasing anti-Semitism among Blacks earned him criticism in some Black quarters.

The apex of his long career as a radical, union and civil rights organizer was in 1963 when he organized the historic civil rights March on Washington. In discussing the need for Black-Jewish unity, he told a conference of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in the late 1960's that "I request the understanding, the cooperation and aid of Jews. I do so knowing that there is Negro anti-Semitism and knowing how Jews must feel when they hear some Negro extremists talk." But, he added, "The issue can never be simply a problem of Jew and Gentile or Black and white. The problem is man's inhumanity to man."

In expressing enthusiasm for Israel, Rustin once remarked: "Since Israel is a democratic state surrounded by essentially undemocratic states which have sworn her destruction, those interested in democracy everywhere must support Israel's existence."

Supported Holocaust Memorial Museum

Rustin was a member of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. In that position, he spoke out strongly on behalf of the planned memorial museum because, as he wrote in a letter to The New York Times in May 1984, Americans need "dramatic reminders of the horrors of World War II, and especially a firm resolve to use our strength and wisdom to assure that the outrages of the Nazi era are never repeated against any people."

A Holocaust memorial museum "is not only for Jews...Blacks cannot forget Hitler's pernicious doctrines of racial superiority, or his treatment of Jesse Owens at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Christians who forget his ultimate plans for all organized religions do so at their own peril." The museum, he said, "will stand as a warning against hatred and dehumanization whoever is the victim."

Rustin wrote a report of his travels in Israel and Lebanon in August 1982 after the Israeli invasion of that country. His first conclusion was that "Israel did indeed receive an unfairly bad press." He wrote that "by standards of international law, the Israeli advance into Lebanon was not an act of aggression. No nation in the world will passively accept continuous attacks from forces based in a neighboring country, and international law recognizes that when such a neighboring country is incapable of halting such attacks, the injured country has every right to undertake that task itself."

Continuing, he scored the world's "double standard with respect to the PLO and Israel...The nations of the world, while prepared to use violence to further their own interests, seem to

demand pacifist behavior from Israel. It is immoral for such nations to denounce Israel's use of force in achieving its objectives, while finding ample rationalization for their own violence...The irony of this double standard is that Israel itself accepts it, holding itself to a higher standard of conduct than the rest of the world."

Rustin met frequently with Israeli leaders, both in Israel and the U.S. During the visit of Premier Shimon Peres to the U.S. in October 1984, Rustin was among the highest American notables he saw.

When Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan referred to Judaism as "a gutter religion" during Jesse Jackson's campaign for the Presidency, Rustin admonished Jackson to repudiate Farrakhan in a New York Times Op Ed article. He wrote that "Farrakhan racism and anti-Semitism are unconscionable."

Rustin believed in Blacks working for equality and jobs within the American system. In the editorial, he urged that Blacks heed the mainstream Black organizations such as the Urban League, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, and elected Black leaders who recognize "a coalition of Black, Hispanics, women, Christians, Jews and other ethnics."

Statements By Jewish Officials

Seymour Reich, president of B'nai B'rith International, recalled that Rustin was "an inveterate and tireless supporter of Jewish humanitarian causes -- from Israel to Soviet Jewry." Reich added that Rustin also was "an eloquent voice of reason at a time when some Black leaders had turned their backs on their Jewish ally."

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said Rustin "was a 'lamed vavnik,' a man of righteousness whose life expressed the prophetic injunction, 'Justice, justice shalt thou pursue.' The people of Israel and Jews the whole world over mourn his passing."

Burton Levinson, national chairman of the ADL, said Rustin "will go down in history as a pioneer in the civil rights movement who dedicated his life to ending racial segregation and achieving fair treatment for all people alike. He was a good friend and esteemed colleague in the long battle for human rights."

Theodore Ellenoff, president of the American Jewish Committee, recalled that his organization had conferred on Rustin its American Liberties Medallion and that Rustin had said upon receiving it: "The principle factors which influenced my life are non-violent tactics, constitutional means, democratic procedures, respect for human personality, a belief that all people are one."

In 1978, Rustin was the recipient of the American Jewish Congress' annual Stephen Wise Award for "illustrious leadership in the cause of racial justice, world peace and human understanding." Herb Magidson, president of the Jewish Labor Committee, said that Rustin, who was a member of the Committee's National Executive Board, fought tirelessly throughout his life "for human and civil rights, in this country and abroad, for peoples of all races, nationalities and creeds."

Lester Pollack, president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York, and Alan Pesky, chairman of the coalition to Free Soviet Jews, both recalled Rustin's commitment to the cause of Soviet Jewish freedom.

**PERES OPTING FOR COMPROMISE ON LAVI**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 26 (JTA) -- Vice Premier Shimon Peres, who has sided in recent weeks with the continuation of the controversial Lavi warplane project, is now trying to persuade his Ministerial colleagues to accept a compromise based on a Lavi 2000 warplane plan for the 21st Century.

Peres met Wednesday with Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Finance Minister Moshe Nissim to further his proposal, in advance of a still-unscheduled deciding vote in the full Cabinet. Rabin and Nissim have been the strongest advocates of stopping the Lavi project at once, for economic reasons.

Peres' plan calls for the Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI), and the myriad smaller contractors involved in the Lavi project, to become involved instead in the development and production of a new generation F-16.

The U.S. Defense Department proposed such Israeli involvement in 1986, in the course of its ongoing efforts to persuade Israeli policymakers to forgo the Lavi. Washington feels the Lavi is too costly for Israel to undertake without seriously prejudicing other vital defense needs. Pentagon officials, and Israeli Air Force experts, believe the present generation F-16 can fulfil the needs designed to be covered by the Lavi.

Nature Of Peres' Plan

Peres' plan would assume U.S. consent to convert to Shekels and use in Israel a further \$100 million of the U.S. military aid package (\$1.8 billion annually) for the Lavi-2000 project. Washington has indicated in the past that it would agree to this.

In effect, the Lavi 2000 idea would mean Israeli participation in American plans for an ATF or Advanced Tactical Fighter, viewed by U.S. planners as the leap forward soon imminent in warplane design and technology.

By referring to Lavi 2000, Peres apparently hopes to woo some of the Ministers who have backed continuation of the present Lavi project. Peres himself has become convinced, during weeks of intense consultations with Defense and Finance Ministry officials, that the present project is not viable without a massive increase of the tax burden on the Israeli public.

Inside sources say Peres' new scheme is backed by his longtime friend Al Schwimmer, who founded IAI, but is opposed by the IAI's present management led by director-general Moshe Keret.

SPECIAL TO THE JTA**IN THE BEGINNING THERE WAS A MEETING**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 26 (JTA) -- Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice president of the Rabbinical Assembly of the Conservative movement, said he was originally assumed to be a participant at the conclave between the Pope and Jewish representatives being held next week, in his capacity as chairman of the American Section of the World Jewish Congress.

However, because of a certain lack of organization, or possibly too much organization, by Jewish groups intent on joining the entourage, the makeup of the group has been so transformed from its original simple conception that Kelman will not be going. He explained the reason for his decision, as well as the background to the original decision to hold the meeting, to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency Wednesday.

Kelman said that when the original controversy arose over the meeting in June between the Pope and Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, he appeared on ABC-TV's "Nightline" with John Cardinal O'Connor of New York to discuss the issue.

In response to a question from host Ted Koppel whether Jewish representatives should still go to Miami to meet with the Pope -- a meeting which Kelman described as "ceremonial" -- Kelman responded that "most Jewish organizations would find it difficult to go to Miami for a ceremonial meeting, but would find a 'substantive' meeting with the Pope beneficial."

Kelman told the JTA the venue was never mentioned. It could have been "anywhere that would be convenient for both parties," he said. Rome was not mentioned then.

A few days after his "Nightline" appearance, he continued, when Agostino Cardinal Casaroli, Vatican Secretary of State, was in New York, he met with four rabbis. This meeting, Kelman said, was arranged by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, which suggested that it would be "helpful" if Casaroli would meet them.

Four Subjects Were Discussed

Kelman was present at that meeting at the Apostolic Mission to the United Nations in his capacity as chairman of the American Section of the WJC. Present along with him were Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, now president of the Synagogue Council of America and at the time president of the Rabbinical Council of America; Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, director of international relations for the American Jewish Committee; and Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, chairperson of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC).

At that meeting, four subjects were discussed: the meeting between Waldheim and the Pope; the issue of Vatican recognition of Israel; the Church's role during the Holocaust; and the current tendency to minimize the uniqueness of Jewish suffering during the Holocaust. Kelman said the bulk of the discussion centered on the issues of Waldheim and Vatican recognition of Israel. Kelman described the meeting as "very candid, friendly but straightforward," with "no rhetoric, no minced words."

He said he proposed at that meeting that, "What I would like to see emerge from such a meeting with the Pope would be a process leading to the issuance of a Papal encyclical dealing with these questions. It would have tremendous impact as a formal Church teaching." Kelman said that Casaroli's response was that "It takes time" to prepare an encyclical.

Shortly thereafter, Kelman said, a message was received from Johannes Cardinal Willebrands,

president of the Vatican Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, saying that the Pope would be willing to meet with Jewish representatives, but that there should be two meetings, a preliminary one between Willebrands and his associates and the Jewish representatives in which the agenda and participating parties would be outlined, and a meeting with the Pope the following day.

'A Kind Of Assumption'

Kelman said it "was never made clear who would meet with Willebrands and the Pope. There was a kind of assumption that the four who had met with Casaroli -- and perhaps some others-- would meet with the Pope."

It was then decided, Kelman said, to send a preliminary working task force to Rome to prepare for the meetings with Vatican officials and the Pope. This would be Tanenbaum and Michael Wischograd, an expert on Christian-Jewish relations for the AJCongress.

"Because most of the Vatican staff was on vacation," Kelman said, "that meeting never took place. So a lot of these discussions have taken place by telephone informally. In the course of the discussions that followed, a number of Jewish groups thought they should be included."

It was agreed that an Israeli and a European Jewish representative be included, Kelman said, and "everyone agreed." Geoffrey Wigoder of Jerusalem, chairman of the Israeli Interfaith Committee, would represent the Israeli component of IJCIC, the organization of Jewish groups which received the Vatican invitation. It was also agreed that Gerhart Riegner, cochairman of the WJC governing board, should be invited. "Then," said Kelman, "the question arose of who else."

Kelman said he has decided not to go, because "there are more than enough people to adequately represent the Jewish community."

The delegation going to Rome includes Waxman, Klaperman, Tanenbaum, Riegner, Wigoder; Seymour Reich, president of B'nai B'rith International; Rabbi Leon Klenicki, director of interfaith affairs for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; Henry Siegman, executive director of the American Jewish Congress; Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; and Gunther Lawrence, who will accompany them as delegation spokesman.

Kelman said of the group, "I wish them well, and pray that the meetings will be a further milestone in improving Catholic-Jewish relations."

ANOTHER TENSION-FILLED SABBATH IS SHAPING UP FOR JERUSALEM

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 26 (JTA) -- A Jerusalem commercial-cinema plans five film screenings next Friday night, and Orthodox circles in the city plan major demonstrations, in what is shaping up as another tension-filled Shabbat for the capital city.

The Orthodox, heartened by their solid showing at a Western Wall prayer meeting on Monday, are also moving on the political plane: the Council of Torah Sages of the Shas Party Wednesday ordered its politicians to secede from Mayor Teddy Kollek's municipal coalition next week unless the Shabbat dispute is satisfactorily resolved. The commercial cinema, Orion, intends to offer lectures at the start of each showing,

thereby abiding, in its view, by a municipal by-law provision permitting cultural events on the Sabbath while forbidding regular commercial film screenings. The Orion would presumably sell club membership tickets before the Sabbath begins.

In addition to this latest venture, the four non-commercial cinema clubs that screened films (accompanied by lectures) last Friday night have all announced their intention to do so again this weekend.

These are Beit Agron in the city center, the Cinematheque, the Tsavta Theater, and Beit Yitzhaki, a cultural center in the German Colony district of south Jerusalem. The organizers are backed -- led as some observers say -- by political activists from Mapam, Civil Rights Movement, and other leftwing and liberal parties in the capital.

The Gravity Of The Situation

The Shas spiritual leaders ordered their politicians to meet with Kollek urgently and "explain to him the gravity of the situation."

Thus far, Shas and its rival ultra-Orthodox party, Agudat Yisrael, are working together in the "battle over the sanctity of the sacred city." Shas's top mentor, former Sephardic Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, stood alongside Rabbis Shalom Eliashiv and Shlomo Zalman Auerbach, two leading Aguda-affiliated rabbis, at the Monday evening prayer-demonstration at the Wall.

The high point at that event was the advent, unexpected, of the venerable Rabbi of Gur, Rabbi Simcha Bunim Alter, who is close to 90 and has not been seen in public for many months. His car was immediately mobbed by young followers. But his attendance gave the demonstration a huge fillip -- which was necessary in view of its failure to attain the turn-out which the organizers hoped for.

Although the Aguda newspaper Hamodia spoke of 50,000 people, more objective estimates put the real number at less than half. Nevertheless, all observers agreed it was an impressive show of solidarity, solemn and well-organized.

The vast congregation chanted prayers and selected Psalms from a specially-printed order of service, and shofar-blowers rounded off the proceedings with vigorous blasts -- ushering in the month of repentance, Elul, whose new moon rose that night.

Significantly, there was a smattering of knitted kippot among the black-hatted through-showing some solidarity between the more modern Orthodox elements in the city and the ultra-Orthodox (Haredi) community on the Shabbat issue.

MOVE TO CURB AIDS IN ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 26 (JTA) -- Israeli prostitutes will be required to undergo blood tests for AIDS every six months and will be liable to arrest if caught without an "AIDS-free" certificate, Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino announced Tuesday.

She was addressing a meeting of top-level health officials and representatives of the police, the IDF, the Magen David Adom, kibbutz movements and of the Labor and Education Ministries, called to discuss the disease.

Aware of the problems of introducing special legislation at this time, the Health Ministry is declaring AIDS to be a "dangerous communicable

disease" and adding it to the existing list of diseases for which persons suspected of defined diseases may be "removed, isolated or arrested and sent for laboratory tests" under existing regulations.

The present list includes typhus, smallpox, cholera, yellow fever, and malaria.

There are estimated to be between 2,000 and 10,000 male and female prostitutes active in Israel.

Of the total of 45 people found to have AIDS in Israel, 35 have died. Half of them were infected abroad. Another 237 persons have been found to carry AIDS antibodies in their blood.

Of 4,000 convicts in Israeli prisons tested for AIDS, 30 have been found to have AIDS antibodies, but not the disease itself. Most were drug addicts.

The IDF chief medical officer has rejected a Health Ministry proposal that the army check all soldiers for AIDS. Brig. Gen. Dr. Yehuda Danon said that if there were reason to check all soldiers, the entire civilian population should be checked. He said that of 250,000 soldiers who had donated blood last year, only 11 were found to have AIDS antibodies.

ACCORD REACHED AT SOLTAM PLANT

TEL AVIV, Aug. 25 (JTA) -- The agreement reached between the Histadrut and Soltam workers who had barricaded themselves in the Yokneam plant and which enabled them to free the Koor and Soltam management personnel after holding them hostage for some 38 hours calls for the continued employment of 300-400 of the 1,300 workers on civilian projects. The factory has a large backlog stock of military equipment because it did not cease production when orders declined.

The other 700-800 employees who had been working on military hardware will have to choose one of the options open to them: generous severance pay for those retiring or taking early retirement; using up full-pay accumulated leave (up to six months for some of the workers); taking reduced pay leave, with 75 percent of the usual leave pay; or opting for a four-day week retraining program with five day's pay and a 30 percent premium.

U.S. OFFICIAL SAYS OPPOSITION TO BORK IS BASED ON 'MISINFORMATION'

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26 (JTA) -- Deputy Attorney General Arnold Burns told a group of rabbis Wednesday that opposition within the Jewish community and elsewhere to Judge Robert Bork is based on "misinformation" about President Reagan's nominee to the vacant seat on the U.S. Supreme Court.

A "false" image of Bork has been presented by "some people, "who want "to achieve political goals of their own," wholly unrelated to the nomination, Burns said at a luncheon for 28 Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis from 13 states, sponsored by the National Jewish Coalition. The luncheon was part of a day-long series of briefings for the rabbis by members of the Administration.

Burns, the second highest ranking official in the Justice Department and a member of the National Jewish Coalition, said a "fictional" Bork has been portrayed who is an extremist, opposed to civil rights, labor unions and women's rights,

among other things. He said the "real" Bork believes that "a judge's views on what is a desirable matter of policy has no place in a judge's decision," that decisions must be based on interpretation of the U.S. Constitution and what Congress had in mind when it passed a particular law.

He noted that in his five years on the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, Bork has participated in over 400 majority opinions, none of which were reversed by the Supreme Court.

Burns did not mention church-state issues during his talk, but when he was asked later by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency about Bork's opinions in this area of concern to the Jewish community, Burns said he did not know Bork's views since he had never ruled on this issue on the Court of Appeals.

But Burns added that he was "confident" that on this issue, as on others, Bork's decisions will be based on his interpretation of the Constitution and not on ideology. "Bork has demonstrated that he has an open mind," he stressed.

When a rabbi asked about Bork's views on abortion, Burns replied that it was "wholly irrelevant" to his nomination to the Supreme Court. He said Bork has said he is "bound by decided cases" and accepts Roe v. Wade which legalized abortions. However, he conceded that if a new abortion case came to the Supreme Court the decision could be reversed.

While most of the briefings Wednesday was closed to the press, Burns speech was open, apparently in an effort to counter the growing opposition to the Bork nomination in the Jewish community. Public opposition has already been expressed by the Jewish War Veterans, the American Jewish Congress, B'nai B'rith Women, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the New Jewish Agenda.

At the luncheon Richard Fox, chairman of the National Jewish Coalition, noted that it was "unique" to have the participation and exchange of views from rabbis representing all movements in Judaism. "It ought to happen on a regular basis," he said.

Fox said that the National Coalition, through its participation in Reagan's election, has had an "impact" on the Administration's policy in matters of Jewish concern. "We believe we've made a difference," he said. "I believe it's an important difference."

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JERUSALEM (JTA) -- Security forces Wednesday sealed up houses in the West Bank belonging to two Palestinians who face trial next week accused of stabbing and wounding an Israeli Jew last December in Jerusalem, military sources said.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) -- Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has appealed to King Hussein of Jordan to take a "dramatic step" to allay Israel's fears over a Middle East peace conference, Maariv reported Wednesday. It said that Peres asked Hussein to influence Israeli public opinion by indicating he would hold direct talks with Israel within the framework of a United Nations-sponsored conference. Peres reportedly said the message passed orally to Hussein through a foreign intermediary.

IRANIAN EMBASSY IN BRAZIL IS CIRCULATING "PROTOCOLS OF ZION"

NEW YORK, Aug. 26 (JTA) -- The Iranian Embassy in Brazil has been circulating a reprint of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," the notorious anti-Semitic hoax, on paper bearing the Embassy's imprint, the American Jewish Committee reported here Wednesday.

The Committee noted that the distribution of the "Protocols" has prompted a series of articles in the Sao Paulo daily, *Folha de Sao Paulo*, the first of which appeared on July 4, headlined "Iranian Embassy Publishes Anti-Semitic Work in Brazil." This anti-Jewish Iranian campaign is described in a report of the AJC's International Relations Department, prepared by Jacobo Kovadloff, AJC director of South American Affairs.

The article, the AJC stated, discussed the history of the "Protocols," from their mid-nineteenth century origin until the present day, focusing on recent local developments.

Interviewed by *Folha*, Francisco Morena de Carvalho, a young Jewish physician and leader of the Friends of Peace Now Movement, commented that "the reappearance of the 'Protocols' in Brazil coincides with the current need for scapegoating." Also quoted was "Geraldo," a member of a Nazi-oriented Sao Paulo group, who declared that the "Protocols" were still valid today.

Iranian Defends Dissemination Of 'Protocols'

In response to a query by the newspaper, the Iranian Embassy confirmed the publication of the "Protocols," and Israel's Ambassador to Brazil, Itzhak Sarfaty, was said to be preparing a protest for submission to Brazil's Foreign Office.

In another article, *Folha* quoted Mouhmd Emtiaz, Iranian Charge d'Affaires and Acting Ambassador in Brazil, as saying that no racism of any kind was involved in the "Protocols." He added that he was "perplexed" at the possibility of having its publication banned in Brazil since "this is a part of history, and the dissemination of history cannot be forbidden."

The newspaper also quoted Jose Knopflich, president of the Jewish Federation of Sao Paulo, as declaring that the dissemination of the "Protocols" and the sentencing of Klaus Barbie were not simply a coincidence, that anti-fascist groups used the Barbie indictment to spread anti-Semitism. Knopflich asserted that organizations representing the Jewish community of Brazil were always on the alert for anti-Semitic literature.

Benno Milnitzky, president of the Jewish Confederation of Brazil, said there was no need to prove the racist or anti-Semitic nature of the "Protocols" because its forgery has been established in several parts of the world. He said the Jewish community would "avail itself of every legal means" against the dissemination of such material as the "Protocols."

Kovadloff recalled that on a trip to South America in 1984, he and Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, the Committee's director of international relations, had met with Dr. Vivaldo Barbosa, Secretary of Justice of the State of Rio, and with Dr. Arthur de Castilho Neto, Secretary General of the Ministry of Justice in Brasilia, and that both officials declared: "We will not allow bigotry to spill over from the Middle East conflict into Brazil."

Existing legislation, the two officials explained, enable them to take appropriate action to suppress the distribution of anti-Semitic material.

HEART TRANSPLANT OPERATION PERFORMED IN HADASSAH HOSPITAL

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 26 (JTA) -- Ovadia Masri, 50, of Beersheba, was pronounced "stable but still not out of danger" by doctors at Hadassah Hospital Wednesday afternoon after undergoing a heart-transplant operation during the night.

It was the first such surgery performed in Israel in 20 years. Two operations done by Prof. Maurice Levy of Tel Aviv in the late 1960's both failed.

Wednesday's operation comes a year after the Health Ministry awarded Hadassah a licence to perform heart transplants. Since then, the Jerusalem Medical Center has trained a team of doctors and nurses and has awaited the right circumstances in which to perform the operation.

Masri, with a chronic heart disease, has been waiting -- along with other potential recipients -- with even greater avidness for these circumstances to materialize.

They did so on Tuesday when a young man (not identified) died at Hadassah after earlier telling doctors that he agreed to his heart being transplanted. The operation began at midnight and went on until dawn, with the team led by South African-born Hadassah cardiologist Prof. Joseph Bolman.

The Hospital Rabbi and the chief rabbinate were kept informed, according to Hadassah spokesmen, and all halachic requirements were fulfilled.

Medical sources believed that if this operation succeeds others would quickly follow at Hadassah, and subsequently at other Israeli hospitals.

NO YELLOW WARNING SIGN FOR THIS TRAFFIC HAZARD

NEW YORK, Aug. 26 (JTA) -- New York State Police have told a group of devout Jews to cease tying up traffic on the New York State Thruway.

The Jewish Press reports that on Thursday evening, August 6, approximately 65 cars parked on the north side of the toll plaza near Harriman, NY -- about an hour's drive from New York City. The drivers got out to "daven mincha" (worship the evening prayers).

Their action caused a major traffic jam with cars swerving in all directions. After prayers, police told the Press that many of the worshippers remained to socialize. They blocked the telephones, and some even crossed into oncoming traffic to use other phones. Children also were reportedly wandering unsupervised.

The police ask that those wishing to stop for prayer use the nearby Sloatsburg Service Area, which contains adequate parking facilities, washrooms and telephones. Police will not permit parking at the toll area.

Tel Aviv (JTA) -- The West Bank terror squad, whose recent detention was announced by the security services Tuesday, had been organized by the PLO, Fatah and the Islamic Jihad group in Amman. Its members had been recruited and trained separately in Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Algeria and Pakistan, according to security sources.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS PAVES THE WAY FOR HISTORIC VATICAN MEETING

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig

ROME, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- The opposing perspectives of prominent American Jews and Vatican officials on common problems emerge in an exchange of letters that paved the way for a Jewish delegation's meeting at the Vatican which begins Monday.

The correspondence between Johannes Cardinal Willebrands, President of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Judaism, and Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, chairman of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) began on June 22, three days before the Pope granted an audience to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim, accused of complicity in Nazi war crimes. Copies of the correspondence were obtained by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Waxman sent Willebrands a telegram on behalf of IJCIC, the Vatican's official Jewish partner in dialogue which includes five Jewish organizations. The telegram expressed "deep concern and disappointment that this meeting with an accused Nazi war criminal is taking place at all."

Waxman pointed out that the lack of "preliminary discussion of a potentially troubling problem" was a blow to the "underlying principles of dialogue."

The "breakdown in communications" was a consequence of not addressing political issues regularly . . . Religious and political issues are profoundly interwoven, and cannot be compartmentalized as if unrelated," Waxman said.

"You are surely aware that the Vatican's failure to establish full and formal diplomatic relations with the State of Israel and also to come to face the realities of the extermination of the Jewish people in Christian lands is considered in the Jewish community as a great injustice. Only a truly meaningful and momentous gesture toward the Jewish people by the Vatican might help to advance Catholic-Jewish relations," Waxman concluded.

Defines Terms For Vatican Dialogue

Willebrands telexed a long, cordial reply on June 30 in which he essentially defined the Vatican's terms for dialogue. The Vatican "is concerned with the field of religious relations between the Church and the Jewish people," the Cardinal wrote. "As such it should be continued, deepened and extended."

In response to Waxman's criticisms of the Waldheim visit, Willebrands said, "Regarding the lack of preliminary consultations . . . neither the commission . . . nor the (liaison) committee for dialogue have ever been mandated to discuss or handle political affairs such as inter-state relations.

"We cannot fill in the absence of diplomatic relations between the State of Israel and the Holy See or take over this function."

The Cardinal's letter also contained a lesson on Vatican ideology. In reply to Waxman's contention that "religious and political issues are

profoundly interwoven," Willebrands said, "Politics, to which belong also diplomatic activities, have their own principles, laws and customs. They are, of course, submitted to moral criteria. Nevertheless, political science and moral philosophy are different disciplines."

Willebrands also addressed Waxman's statement that the welcome of "an unrepentant Nazi . . . is particularly offensive (because) sufficient evidence of his involvement in Nazi atrocities put him last April on a 'Watch List'."

The Cardinal replied there was still "no proof" and added that Waldheim had "held delicate and highly responsible functions in the service of the United Nations and has never been formally accused or convicted." Waldheim, he added, "has the right to be treated with full consideration for his human rights and his official position."

Willebrands provided another glimpse of Vatican policy saying, "Waldheim's visit regards not the person but the State which he represents."

From Defensive To Conciliatory

But the tone of the correspondence changed from defensive to conciliatory when Willebrands addressed Waxman's statement that "what is happening this week (Waldheim audience) is a terrible blow to the future of Vatican-Jewish relations."

Willebrands replied, "Things that happened in a history of centuries, and especially the Shoah, can explain all this to a great extent. We have a great task and responsibility towards each other to overcome and to heal wounds mutually inflicted and to build new relations of confidence, peace and love."

The healing of "wounds mutually inflicted" apparently was an oblique reply to Waxman's statement that the Church must face the "realities of the extermination of Jewish people in Christian lands."

The exchange illustrates the importance which both the Vatican and Jewish leaders place on reconciliation before the Pope's scheduled encounter with some 200 U.S. Jewish leaders in Miami Sept. 11.

In the months following the correspondence, the upcoming meeting of an IJCIC delegation with the Pope and Vatican officials crystallized through open and lively dialogue culminating in the meeting between Vatican Secretary of State Agostino Cardinal Casaroli and IJCIC leadership in New York. These events paved the way for the historic meeting between the IJCIC delegation and Pope John Paul II set for Tuesday, Sept. 1.

JEWISH LEADERS ADOPT 5-POINT AGENDA FOR MEETING POPE, VATICAN OFFICIALS

By Margie Olster

NEW YORK, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- The Jewish agenda for a meeting of representatives of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) with the Pope and high-ranking Vatican officials cites the "recent tendencies toward apparent revisionism of Nazi history in the Catholic church" and argues that the Pope's audience with Austrian President Kurt

Waldheim, accused of complicity in Nazi atrocities, fueled rising anti-Semitism in Europe (especially Austria) and in America.

The 11-page document includes a detailed agenda adopted by the Jewish leaders for their scheduled meetings with Pope John Paul II on Sept. 1 and with high-ranking Vatican officials on Aug. 31. A delegation of 10 Jewish officials will attend the meetings at the Vatican and at the Pope's summer residence outside Rome at Castel Gandolfo.

The agenda contains five major topics of concern among Jews: Revisionism and the Nazi Holocaust; Contemporary Anti-Semitism; Catholic Theology of Jews and Judaism; Israel and the Middle East; and Human Rights and Soviet Jewry. On the last issue there is a large measure of agreement between the two faiths, the agenda notes.

On the issue of the Jewish experience in the Holocaust, the agenda documents a disturbing trend within the Catholic Church towards minimizing Jewish suffering and universalizing the Holocaust. The agenda does, however, praise the Pope for making statements "reflecting his deep understanding of the uniqueness and the magnitude of the tragedy suffered by the Jewish people who were singled out by Hitler and his Nazi regime for total extinction."

Pope's Statements Tempered By Events

But these statements have been tempered by a number of other events which have offended the Jewish people. During a visit to Auschwitz, the Pope spoke movingly about the Jewish victims of Nazism. "It is difficult to reconcile these sentiments with the reality that when Pope John Paul II visited Majdanek in Poland last May, he mentioned fourteen nationalities but made not a single reference to the murder of several hundred thousand Jews in that place of killing," the agenda states.

The beatification of German Catholic victims as martyrs while failing to acknowledge the role of the German Catholic hierarchy and their loyalty to the Nazi regime has also deeply troubled the Jewish leaders. These actions "suggest a form of revisionism of the truth of history," the document charges.

The Jewish leaders have also agreed to raise the issue of Catholic churches and convents being erected on the sites of former Nazi concentration camps in Sobibor and Auschwitz (the latter of which was subsequently removed).

"The audience granted Kurt Waldheim on June 25, 1987, elicited such widespread horror among Jews, as well as among many Christians, in part because it appeared to be the capstone of such revisionist tendencies," the document states.

"How was it possible to receive with honors a former Nazi officer, who lied about and denied his Nazi involvement, and not make a single reference to that horrific past? Is it not possible that such silence is a message to the world that the Nazi Holocaust is so trivial and irrelevant that it was not worthy even of a mention?"

The Waldheim audience, according to the document, was followed by a sharp rise in Austrian polls of anti-Semitic sentiment, rising anti-Semitic acts in Germany and Europe and even an increase in American Catholic hostility towards the Jews in a country where Jewish-Catholic relations are probably at an apex.

In a section on Catholic Theology of Jews and Judaism, the same divergence of Catholic attitudes reemerges with alternately positive and negative characterizations of Jews. The Pope has recognized the permanent validity of Judaism, the document notes. But at other times, "There have been references to Jews as having killed Christ; of the Church as the 'new Israel' having succeeded the 'old Israel.'"

The leaders call on the Vatican to clarify the theology on Jews and Judaism to prevent manipulation of the Pope's statements by bigots and anti-Semites worldwide. "Such lapses create great confusion and tend to undermine the power and integrity of the other Papal declarations made to numerous Jewish groups in many parts of the world."

The proposed agenda calls on the Vatican to establish full diplomatic relations; with the State of Israel instead of the "de facto diplomatic relations (that) have been developing quietly."

The document also alludes to what is perceived to be one of the obstacles to diplomatic relations; the Vatican's fear of a threat to Christians living in Arab countries.

"We believe that the time is past due for the Holy See to separate bluster and blackmail from reality, take the necessary moves to protect Arab Christians and Christians in the Muslim world, while asserting the autonomy and independence of its own foreign policy."

The document concludes with a call for improved communication between the Vatican and the world Jewish community, for more frequent meetings like the upcoming one and for an end to "surprise" events, such as the Waldheim visit, which set back progress in Catholic-Jewish relations.

FORMER POCS CAMPAIGN TO SAVE THE LAVI

JERUSALEM, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- Eighty-five former prisoners of Zion have joined the campaign to save the Lavi. In a petition published in the press Thursday, the former prisoners, headed by Yosef Begun who is still in the USSR, call upon the Israeli government to "decide to continue developing the Lavi."

The future of the Lavi, Israel's ultra-modern fighter plane, is under question, with the Cabinet yet to make its final decision regarding the cancellation or the continuation of the project.

Illustrating the former prisoners' "deep concern for Israel's security and for the absorption of aliya" is a message from Begun relayed from Moscow on Wednesday. Begun expresses his "pride that so many new immigrants are participating in the airplane's development." Begun continues that he hopes "with all his heart, that this important project will continue."

Almost all the other signatories to the petition, such as recent immigrant Yuli Edelshtein, Silva Zalmanson and Yosef Mendelevitch now reside in Israel.

TEL AVIV (JTA) -- The Mossad, Israel's intelligence agency, is "riddled with financial corruption" and its "output" is "much less than it is capable of," according to an article in the forthcoming issue of the *Monitin* monthly magazine. The article includes interviews with senior Mossad officials who do not usually speak either on or off the record.

SPECIAL ANALYSIS THE LAVI IS A TARGET OF U.S. ANGER

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- Earlier this month at a private meeting at the White House, a group of Jewish leaders was briefed by Reagan Administration officials about the Lavi, the fighter jet Israel wants to build.

According to one source at the meeting, the sharpest warning came from Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, who said that a decision by Israel to develop the plane would result in a refusal by the United States to allocate additional military assistance for the Lavi.

Weinberger's warning shows the extent to which the Administration, while publicly stating that the decision about the Lavi is up to Israel, has been trying nevertheless both publicly and privately to get Israel to scrap the project. On Aug. 11, the day after members of the Israel Knesset's Defense and Foreign Affairs and Finance committees voted to continue the Lavi project by a vote of 22 to 6, the State Department made an announcement about the plane at its daily briefing -- a procedure not always used.

"Given the budgetary constraints we and Israel face, we believe a decision by Israel to terminate the Lavi would be in the best interests of both our countries," said spokesperson Charles Redman.

One official of a Jewish organization called the statement "unprecedented" because of its "harsh tone," but another commented that "what you are seeing is a lot of frustrated people who think they've given good advice and who haven't been listened to."

Defense Officials Are Concerned

This "good advice" has been to scrap a jet which, in the words of a Pentagon spokesperson is "so, so expensive" and keeps "getting bigger and bigger." About \$1.5 billion dollars has already been spent on the Lavi, most of it from U.S. military assistance, and analysts believe before another billion dollars will be required before the planes roll off the assembly line in the early 1990's.

Defense officials say they are concerned that the Lavi, which will soak up about 30 percent of Israel's \$1.8 billion military package, will leave little else for Israel's other defense needs. This includes naval modernization, continuation of the Merkava tank and other Air Force equipment.

The U.S. has already made it clear that Israel cannot expect to receive any additional funds from the U.S., which is facing its own budgetary restraints. "There is no more money. We have this thing here called Gramm-Rudman (the deficit reduction act). There is no more money," a Defense spokesperson said.

Pentagon officials are hoping that Israel will be induced to accept what they consider to be a generous package offered to Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin when he met with Administration officials last month. This package included 75 to 100 F-16cs fighters, at rates cheaper than sold to other allies by waiving research and development costs with delivery to be made in the early 1990s, and allowing Israel to keep \$300 million of its \$1.8 billion military budget for offshore procurement.

Also being considered is a proposal to have the Israelis co-produce General Dynamics, F-16 fighters. Ironically, the Israelis sought co-produc-

tion 10 years ago when they were seeking new planes to update their aging fighter planes which suffered bruising losses from Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles in the Yom Kippur War. It was only after the Carter Administration rejected co-production that the Israelis turned to development of their own plane -- the Lavi.

Basis For Pentagon Opposition

Some observers say the Pentagon opposition to the Lavi is based on more than a desire to save Israel from itself. The cost of the Lavi has risen only because the plane has become more sophisticated, not because of cost overruns, say the plane's supporters. They argue that costs have been very low, especially compared to programs in the Pentagon, often criticized for wasteful spending.

"They (the Pentagon) are frightened to death Israel will be able to produce a sophisticated airplane at such a low price which will embarrass the Pentagon," suggested one Lavi proponent.

Marvin Klemow, Washington representative of the Israel Aircraft Industries, also points out that about 40 percent of the work on the Lavi will be done in the U.S. by American firms, which amounts to \$1.5 billion in contracts and 37,000 U.S. jobs.

"If the Lavi was cancelled tomorrow, that means money would be spent on other programs not spent here," he said.

Some also say the Pentagon has been reacting to opposition from defense corporations who are worried that the Lavi might be competition for their planes or would gain from selling F-16s. General Dynamic denies that it is lobbying against the plane.

But a spokesperson for Northrop, which is not producing any part of the Lavi, acknowledged that in 1983 they were opposed to the Lavi when it might have competed with one of their planes, the F-20, in which they had invested \$1 billion of their own funds and were hoping to sell to the Air Force.

"We were concerned that we were competing with an offshore aircraft program funded with U.S. money," said a Northrop spokesman. Northrop was forced to drop the F-20 program when the Air Force chose to modify existing F-16s.

Difficulty Of Exporting The Lavi

Some experts have pointed out that it would be very difficult for the Israelis to export the Lavi when so much of the world market is off limits to them and potential customers like South Korea, Taiwan and Argentina would only be able to afford a few planes. The exporting of the Lavi would also be restricted by the U.S. because so many of the plane's parts are made in the U.S.

But Klemow said while the "first goal is to produce the airplane for the Israelis, exporting is something ten years down the road." Klemow also suggested that a Lavi-type plane might be considered for use by the U.S. in development of a close air support program.

"It would save the Pentagon hundreds of millions of dollars, and makes sense since the U.S. taxpayer is heavily involved in the jet," he said. But the Pentagon official stated flatly, "The Air Force has no interest in the Lavi whatsoever, none."

Whatever its reasons, the Pentagon has long been opposed to the Lavi, which would never have gotten off the ground without assistance from Secretary of State George Shultz and the Con-

gress. Although the Israelis started work on the plane in 1980, it wasn't until 1983, when Moshe Arens became Secretary of Defense, that the U.S. got involved.

Arens had the double credentials of being an aeronautics engineer who envisioned a jet that would be more sophisticated, and a former Ambassador to U.S. who could help get U.S. backing for the plane. In 1983 Shultz helped to issue necessary licenses enabling U.S. companies to transfer technology to Israel. The same year Congress passed an amendment earmarking \$550 million of Israel's \$1.7 billion aid for the Lavi. A year later Congress allocated \$1.3 billion for the jet through 1987.

Pressure By The Pentagon

But the Pentagon was hesitant about the project all along and in 1986 even tried to impound \$67 million authorized by Congress. Weinberger was reacting to a study by Dov Zakheim, then Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for planning and resources, which suggested that the Israelis had strongly underestimated the Lavi's cost.

When Zakheim came into the Pentagon in 1984 he found all the costs analyses done on the Lavi were two years old. When he completed his own estimates in the winter of 1986, he projected the Lavi's cost at \$22 million, compared to an Israeli figure of \$15.2 million. And even his numbers, he insisted, were conservative, because it did not take into account such factors as delays.

If there's any lesson to be learned in working with Israel on a major project it is that "it's to everyone's advantage to get our systems analysts together to get an understanding," said Zakheim, who has since left the Pentagon. "Our analysts should have started out together. If they would have they (the Israelis) would have realized the (Lavi's) cost in 1981 and 1982," he said.

But a highly regarded study of the Lavi's cost by the Congressional watchdog service, the General Accounting Office, says Zakheim's figures were too high. The GAO put the annual figure at \$18 million, a figure which the Pentagon says is accurate only if Israel produces 300 planes, when only up to 150 are planned.

Israeli Officials Feel Squeezed

It is still not clear whether Weinberger will be able to stop military funds from going to the Lavi, which will require congressional approval. But Israeli officials and Jewish groups say they are worried a vote by the Israeli Cabinet to continue with the Lavi will prevent them from obtaining defense contracts.

"There will be a lot of anger" towards Israel, predicted an official of one Jewish organization. A vote to go with the Lavi would also require Jewish organizations to support the plane, this same official added, something they may do with "little enthusiasm."

But another proponent of strong U.S.-Israel relations was more sanguine about the ramifications of a decision to proceed with the Lavi: "It's definitely not the Lebanon war or annexing the West Bank. This is a watershed, it may cause a little bit of discomfort, projects will be delayed. . . (But) I can't see the Lavi being a catalyst for negative U.S.-Israel relations. We've been through so much worse."

U.S. DEMANDS ISRAEL DISMISS EITAN AS BASIS FOR DISPOSING OF POLLARD CASE By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- The U.S. has again demanded of Israel that Rafael Eitan, who was head of the Scientific Liaison Bureau which was dismantled in the wake of the Jonathan Pollard spy affair, be dismissed from his current position as Board chairman of Israel Chemicals as a precondition for any final disposition of the Pollard case, Maariv reported Thursday.

The paper quoted authoritative sources in Jerusalem who are handling this as saying that Israel rejects the U.S. demand. They add that all the contacts are on a semi-official basis, so that theoretically it could even be maintained that no such demand was ever made.

Formally, the contacts are continuing between Israeli lawyers and U.S. prosecution officials regarding the latter's request to lift the immunity of Eitan, Irit Erb and Yosef Yagur. They received immunity when they testified before U.S. committees investigating the Pollard case. But the American officials now say the three did not tell the whole truth.

Regarding the demand for Eitan's dismissal, Maariv said there are officials in Jerusalem who would consider this, but only if the U.S. promised that this would spell the end of the Pollard affair. However, the U.S. is continuing to insist that Israel give it the names of other Americans who helped it in the same way Pollard did. Washington does not believe Israel's claims that no such persons exist.

According to reports reaching the Israeli team handling the matter, the Americans believe that even without Jerusalem's help they will be able to expose additional "Pollards."

Maariv said that the subject is getting top-level treatment in Jerusalem, with ongoing matters being handled by a team consisting of Brig. Gen. Azriel Nevo, the Prime Minister's military secretary; Hanan Baron, former Deputy Director-General of the Foreign Ministry; and former Ambassador to the U.S. Meir Rosenne.

BOMB BLAST WOUNDS EGGED BUS DRIVER

TEL AVIV, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- An Egged bus driver was severely wounded Thursday when a bomb exploded in a parked bus in an Egged garage here. The driver was identified as an Arab from Gaza who was assigned to the Gaza Strip-Tel Aviv route.

There were no eyewitnesses to the explosion, but Egged workers in a hut near the parking lot rushed to the scene and saw the badly-damaged vehicle with the driver in it. Police searched the lot and found a number of explosive charges hidden among and inside other parked buses.

TEL AVIV, Aug. 27 (JTA) -- Four Katyusha rockets were fired into the northern Galilee Thursday morning but caused no casualties and only slight damage. The Katyushas were fired from outside the South Lebanon security zone. In a separate incident, an undamaged and unexploded Soviet-made SAM-6 missile was found by South Lebanon Army (SLA) soldiers near the border of the security zone on Monday.

CABINET VOTES TO SCRAP LAVI

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- The controversial Lavi project came to an end Sunday, as the Cabinet decided, with a narrow 13 to 12 majority, to discontinue the project. The decision is effective immediately.

The tie between supporters and opponents of the Lavi was upset as Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almoslino, in a last-minute development, bowed to pressures by the Labor Party and abstained. Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, the main proponent of the Lavi, announced his intention to resign. He has not yet handed in his official letter of resignation.

In effect, the Cabinet adopted the compromise proposal of Vice Premier Shimon Peres to discontinue the Lavi project but at the same time allocate \$100 million to Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) for the development of "future technologies," chiefly the manufacture of a jet fighter for the 21st century, referred to as the Lavi 2000.

IAI Workers Threaten Reprisals

Despite the Peres proposal, thousands of workers are expected to be laid off, as the \$7 billion project was discontinued. Hundreds of IAI workers who gathered outside the Prime Minister's office, waiting for the decision, reacted angrily and announced they would take "unusually hard steps" to force the government into a reversal of the decision.

As the workers council met in Lod to weigh its reaction, it considered several proposals, among them to take over Ben Gurion Airport runways and to halt all air traffic to and from Israel, to block traffic on central intersections of the country's roads, and to demonstrate in front of Labor Party headquarters in Tel Aviv.

The Cabinet decision to scrap the Lavi was passed en bloc by the Labor Ministers, with the exception of Arbeli-Almoslino, who abstained. The only Likud Minister who voted for the Peres proposal was Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, who said that being in charge of the economy, he could see no way to avoid the decision because of the need for economic recovery.

Arbeli-Almoslino, who until shortly before the decision had said she would vote for continuation of the project, blamed the Likud for the "grave it had dug for the project." Premier Yitzhak Shamir brought the proposal to vote after he succeeded in convincing Justice Minister Avraham Sharir to vote with the rest of the Likud Ministers -- even though he opposed the project's continuation.

Arbeli-Almoslino said she had been forced to abstain because the Likud turned the Lavi project into a matter of party politics. In consultations among Labor Ministers prior to the vote, Peres reportedly raised his voice in telling her not to torpedo the proposal. Visibly upset, she burst into tears after the vote. Arens, who in the past served as a senior engineer at IAI, said he decided to resign because he was not ready to bear the "collective responsibility following the Cabinet's decision."

Science and Technology Minister Gideon Patt ruled out the possibility of a coalition crisis as a result of Arens' possible resignation.

In an initial reaction to the Cabinet decision, Shaul Etzion, deputy secretary of the IAI workers union, described the decision as "catastrophic." He said he was certain that most of the Ministers who voted to stop the project "didn't really know what they are doing." He projected that as a result, some 5,000-6,000 workers will be laid off. He ridiculed Peres' suggestion to continue developing avionic technologies without the Lavi. "Israeli Aircraft Industries by its name is an industry, it is not just a research institution."

A last-minute boost for the Peres proposal was a weekend letter from the Reagan Administration strongly urging the project's termination. The letter reportedly implied that the U.S. would help Israel maintain a high level of technological research and development once the Lavi is scrapped.

In the letter, the U.S. offered to help Israel develop a research and development infrastructure in the defense industries. It also offered to continue helping Israel finance test flights of the Lavi prototype to develop avionic systems.

The 10-point paper, which was presented by U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering, said the U.S. undertook to increase to \$400 million aid which could be converted to Israeli currency, to allow for further technological developments by the Israeli industry.

JEWISH DELEGATION GATHERS IN ROME

By Lisa Palmieri-Billig and Edwin Eytan

ROME, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- A Jewish delegation arrived here over the weekend for historic meetings with high-ranking Vatican officials and, on Tuesday, a meeting with Pope John Paul II which is being touted as an unprecedented open dialogue instead of the traditional formal presentations followed by a papal response.

Tuesday's meeting is expected to be the first known instance in the Vatican's 2,000-year history that the Pontiff, the spiritual leader of close to 900 million Catholics and the head of a sovereign state, will take part in a free discussion based on give and take.

The discussion this week will also be the first in which the Vatican will delegate an official with political and diplomatic responsibility to such a meeting. Msgr. Luigi Gatti, a representative of the Vatican's political branch, will participate in the Vatican's delegation to the meetings.

Previously, the Jewish-Catholic dialogue which began in 1965 consisted of rare meetings between Jewish representatives and the Pope in which the Jews made formal presentations and an address and the Pope responded. Progress was noted by one Jewish delegate who recalled that not long ago, in historical terms, Jewish representatives had to kneel when received at the Vatican. But the Catholic-Jewish dialogue has come a long way as the 10-member delegation representing the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) prepares to confer Monday with senior Vatican officials and Tuesday with Vatican Secretary of State Agostino

Cardinal Casaroli and later with the Pope at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo.

Both sides have indicated they hope the meetings will, at the very least, defuse existing tensions and hopefully open a new chapter in Jewish-Catholic relations. Tuesday's meeting with the Pope is expected to result in a joint declaration condemning anti-Semitism, recalling the horrors of the Holocaust and paving the way for a new type of relationship. Both sides stressed privately that they want to avoid confrontations and recriminations.

Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, chairman of IJCIC, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, "The meetings will not be a confrontation. What we want is to lessen existing tensions, resolve misunderstandings and explain our stand for the sake of better Catholic-Jewish Relations."

One member of the Jewish delegation, Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, American Jewish Committee director for international relations, said he received word from the Vatican last week that the Pope wanted the meeting to be informal, frank and honest with no formal presentations but an atmosphere of give and take.

First Point On The Agenda

The delegation decided Sunday on a four-point agenda for Monday's meeting which will encompass most of the Jewish grievances against the Vatican's latest steps and declarations but also provide for a better understanding in the future.

Waxman said the first point on the agenda will be the issue of recent revisionist tendencies within the Catholic Church which reached a climax with the Pope's meeting with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim last June. "The Waldheim case," said Waxman, "is symbolic of what we see as a dangerous trend. It signifies a certain forgetfulness of the past, a possible temptation to erase the monstrosity which was the Holocaust and to minimize the martyrdom of the Jewish people."

In the past, the Vatican had carefully tried to separate what it termed the religious from the political issues and formally, at least, tried to restrict its dialogue with the Jewish representatives to "moral, religious and theological issues."

The Vatican issued a press release Friday saying the working session Monday will focus on "fundamental topics of the interreligious dialogue between the Catholic Church and Jews." Some saw this as an attempt to confine the dialogue to religious issues to the exclusion of political topics like Vatican diplomatic relations with Israel, one of the four main topics on the Jewish delegation's agenda for the meetings.

The delegation's arrival in Rome was preceded by weeks of haggling over who would represent the Jewish community in the meetings. The delegation included two non-American representatives, Dr. Gerhart Riegner of Geneva, co-chairman of the World Jewish Congress Governing Board, and Geoffrey Wigoder of Israel representing the Israel Interfaith Committee.

Italian and West European Jewish leaders privately expressed deep disappointment for what they see as their exclusion from the meetings.

JERUSALEM WEATHERS ANOTHER WEEKEND
By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Five hundred policemen and a large quantity of tear-gas en-

abled the city of Jerusalem to weather another stormy weekend relatively unscathed. Secularist leaders claimed success in that five film shows were screened at cinema clubs around the city.

Orthodox activists claimed success, too. They brought out thousands of demonstrators to the streets on Saturday afternoon to shout "Shabbes, Shabbes" at passing cars and at the massed phalanxes of police. Only at a few of these demonstrations were stones thrown -- and the police immediately moved in with powerful water-firing trucks and teargas canisters to quell the disturbances and keep the city's main traffic arteries open.

Only a handful of arrests were made -- among them a group of Kach activists seeking to incite violence in Mea Shearim on Friday night.

With the weekend now over, attention turns back to the political plane, where the Shas Party must decide whether to secede, as it has threatened, from mayor Teddy Kollek's municipal coalition. Shas Council of Sages was due to reach a decision by Monday. If all the religious parties pull out, Kollek would still have a bare majority to run the city, but the political move would inevitably exacerbate the tension in the streets.

Ambivalence In The Simmering Conflict

Most of the action on Saturday afternoon was in areas bordering the ultra-Orthodox residential areas. Thus the main road past the Sanhedria Quarter was blocked for some time. Cars on the road to Ramot were stoned as they passed Kiryat Zanz and Itri and the main road to Tel Aviv was briefly blocked near Givat Shaul.

The scene in the mixed area of old Katamon, in south Jerusalem, pointed up some of the ambivalence that accompany this simmering conflict.

The Beit Din of the Eda Haredit, the ultra-Orthodox community, had selected a main street in Katamon as one of the 15 sites for demonstrations Saturday afternoon and the local Yeshiva Erlau was intended to set the tone.

But the head of this yeshiva, Rabbi Yohanan Sofer, and his followers have evolved peaceable and friendly relations with the broader Katamon community and he was not anxious to disrupt these ties. At the same time he had to toe the line.

The upshot was that his students gathered on the sidewalk for precisely 15 minutes and shouted lustily, "Shabbes, Shabbes" at any passing car. On the stroke of the 16th minute the venerable rabbi came out and gave a signal, whereupon the shouting instantly ceased and all the demonstrators trooped off to their study hall. Katamon returned to its regular Saturday afternoon torpor.

U.S. TO RETURN ENVOY TO SYRIA, BUT WILL CONTINUE SANCTIONS

By Judith Colp

WASHINGTON, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- The State Department announced Friday that it will return the United States Ambassador to Damascus in "response to positive steps" Syria has taken against terrorism. U.S. envoy William Eagleton was recalled last October after Syria was implicated in the attempted bombing of an El Al plane in London in April 1986.

"Our information shows a decrease in levels of Syrian support for terrorist activities and some other groups," said State Department spokesperson Phyllis Oakley. "Syria has closed the Abu Nidal organization offices in Damascus and expelled all

known Abu Nidal organization personnel," she added. Oakley said the decision to return Eagleton was not related to the escape earlier this month of journalist Charles Glass from captors in Lebanon. "We've certainly expressed our appreciation for the efforts that the Syrians made on behalf of Glass," she explained. "I don't think we had ever spelled out our problems with Syria in terms of hostages, it was always in relationship to their support of terrorism."

Although Glass said that he escaped from his captors, Syria had sought his freedom during a time when its army controlled Beirut.

Despite the return of the envoy, economic sanctions imposed against Syria last November remain in effect. These included restrictions on U.S. exports, a ban on the selling of tickets in the U.S. for the Syrian national airline and a reduction in the staff at the U.S. Embassy in Damascus and the Syrian Embassy here.

Preconditions For Dropping Sanctions

The State Department said the shutting down of terrorist groups operating from Syrian-controlled territory in Lebanon, in addition to the closing of the Abu Nidal offices, were preconditions for dropping its sanctions.

Syria has been on the State Department's list of countries promoting terrorism since 1979 although it wasn't directly implicated in any terrorist activity until the trial last year of Nezar Hindawi, convicted of hijacking an El Al jet departing from London.

During the trial it was revealed that Hindawi traveled to London from Damascus with a Syrian passport, and had fled to the Syrian Embassy after the bomb plot was uncovered. There was also evidence that he had been assisted by Syrian intelligence sources. Syria denied the charges. At that time, Britain also broke off relations with Syria.

Oakley noted that the State Department continues to worry about the Syrian military presence in regions of Lebanon.

VICTOR BIENSTOCK, FORMER JTA EDITOR, DEAD AT 79 By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Victor Bienstock, former editor of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, died Friday in Boca Raton, Fla., of a heart attack. He was 79 years old. Funeral services were held there Sunday.

Bienstock, one of the first war correspondents to write about the Nazi death camps in Europe, devoted his life to the cause of Jewish journalism as well as to the future of Jewish journalists. In what was probably the last article he wrote as a columnist for American Jewish newspapers, he described his career in journalism, and particularly Jewish journalism, of which this month would have marked the beginning of his 59th year.

Born May 21, 1908 in Hartford, Connecticut, Bienstock began his career as a cub reporter on The New York World. He wrote that his Jewishness clearly colored his outlook of general news. "I was always aware of the fact that, being Jewish, I could not detach myself personally and regard with complete objectivity developments affecting the Jewish wellbeing. I suspect that the heightened sensitivity to racism, religious bias and prejudice that lay in my Jewish subconscious made

me more alert to discrimination in all its forms against others wherever it was manifested."

Although his prior contacts with the Jewish world were limited, he said, "my sense of Jewish kinship flowered when I moonlighted to assist the staff at the Jewish Telegraphic Agency."

The year was 1929, and the occasion was the outbreak of Arab anti-Jewish riots in Palestine. Four years later, with the advent of Adolph Hitler to power in Germany, Bienstock by design became a totally Jewish journalist, resigning from The New York Herald Tribune, where he was editor of the Tribune news service, to become managing editor of the JTA in New York from 1933-35.

'Sense Of Jewishness . . . Never Left Me'

"My sense of Jewishness was something that never left me," he wrote. Even when he had worked on general news (he was a correspondent in London for the London Morning Post) he would go out evenings to search for Jewish news, to the point of near obsession.

From 1935-40, he worked in London as JTA's chief foreign service editor, where he met his wife, Rebecca Kosiner, who was the bookkeeper in the London office. They returned to New York in 1940, where he became chief foreign editor of the Overseas News Agency (ONA), the JTA subsidiary dealing in more general news about the Nazi-occupied countries.

In June 1944, working for the ONA, Bienstock accompanied the Allied Fifth Army in its liberation of southern France. After filing his stories, if he had no other leads for Jewish news, Bienstock would check out the tombstones in the local Jewish cemetery and then look for the survivors.

He wrote that he didn't believe in covering up news that might portray Jews in an unfavorable light. "Jews like everyone else, I believed, must be made aware of their sins and errors to be able to guard against them."

Between 1950-70, Bienstock was general manager, editor and vice president of JTA.

Continued To Write After Retirement

In 1970, after his retirement from JTA, he became executive editor of the New York Jewish Week, where he remained for three years until he retired to Florida. There, although technically retired, he continued to write. From 1975 until his death, he wrote an editorial page column for the Boca Raton Daily News.

He was also secretary of the American War Correspondents Association (AWCA) from 1944-52, as well as chairman of the AWCA Freedom-of-Press Committee, and a member of the National Press Club in Washington. In 1946, he received the U.S. War Department's Citation for his services as a war correspondent.

John Kayston, executive vice president emeritus of the JTA, recalled his years working with Bienstock: "Vic Bienstock and I worked together at JTA for almost half a century. During these turbulent years, the years of the Holocaust and the founding of the State of Israel, Vic Bienstock did a yeoman job for the Jewish community by advancing and improving the standards of Jewish journalism. He made a great contribution to JTA and thus to the entire Jewish community. Because of his journalistic skill, devotion and experience, JTA has over the years become one of Jewry's most effective instruments."

NEW BOOK EXPLORES HOLLYWOOD'S APPEASEMENT OF HITLER AND MUSSOLINI

NEW YORK, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- In their book "Hollywood Goes to War," published this month by the Free Press in New York City, Oberlin College Prof. Clayton Koppes and University of Missouri history Prof. Gregory Black explore a little-known and dark chapter in the history of the American film industry: Hollywood's appeasement of Hitler and Mussolini and its propaganda liaison with the Roosevelt Administration.

Koppes and Black detail the motion picture studios' unwillingness to speak out against anti-Semitism and fascism in the 1930's, their accession to the demands of Nazi Germany and fascist Italy, and their alliance with the Roosevelt Administration's propaganda agency, the Office of War Information (OWI), which succeeded in distorting Hollywood portrayals of American Blacks and the Allied and Axis powers during World War II.

Among the many revelations in the book are the following:

* In the mid-1930's, when the Nazis demanded of the American motion picture studios that all "non-Aryan" studio employes in Germany be terminated, the studios, almost all of them run by Jewish executives in Hollywood, complied and fired Jewish workers on their business staffs and offices in Germany. The studios did this even though Hitler's Nuremberg Laws banned all films with Jewish actors and actresses, cutting the number of American films shown in Germany to just 20 per year.

* In an effort to appease Mussolini, MGM changed the locale of Robert Sherwood's anti-war, anti-fascist "Idiot's Delight" (1939) with Clark Gable and Norma Shearer from Italy to an unnamed Esperanto-speaking Alpine nation.

The film industry's self-censorship bureau, the Hays Office, then had the chief of its Production Code Administration, Joseph Breen, carry a severely altered version of the script to Italy in order to obtain the official approval of Mussolini's government, which he succeeded in doing. By the time the film was completed however, new commercial restrictions made it unprofitable for Hollywood to distribute movies in Italy.

Censorship Baked By Economic Clout

* Breen, who exercised great power in his censorship role, was virulently anti-Semitic as well as anti-Communist. In the 1930's, he pressured MGM into dropping its plan to film Sinclair Lewis' "It Can't Happen Here" even though the studio had already bought the rights from Lewis and had invested heavily in the production.

He also prevented the filming of Vincent Sheean's "Personal History," an indictment of Hitler, because it would arouse "audience feeling against the present German regime, in the matter of its treatment of the Jews." Breen's censorship was backed by economic clout: banks usually insisted upon his office's approval before lending money for productions, and most films relied on bank financing.

* OWI, the Roosevelt Administration's propaganda arm charged with furthering the American war effort through a liaison with the Hollywood studios, had hoped to work with Black leaders in order to improve Hollywood's portrayal of people of color. By war's end it became clear that the government's objectives and those of Black lead-

ers were incompatible. The government was intent on depicting a unified America without internal dissension; the Blacks wanted a realistic, non-stereotyped portrayal of themselves and their unequal treatment at home. Of 100 Black appearances in wartime films, 75 perpetuated old stereotypes, 13 were neutral, and only 12 were positive, among them symbolic portrayals that were untrue: in "Bataan," for instance, Kenneth Spencer is part of an integrated battle group, and there were no integrated battle groups at this time.

"Repeatedly in the 1930's, Hollywood altered the kind of pictures it would make because of economic considerations," Koppes says. "It didn't make any explicitly anti-Nazi pictures until 1939, in large measure because it didn't want to lose its markets in Germany and Italy. Because there was no American movie market in the Soviet Union there were very few pictures about Russia, and those that were made could afford to be unfavorable. The studios didn't make films Breen disapproved of for fear of losing bank financing.

Another disturbing byproduct of the American film industry's involvement with propaganda was "the way in which images in movies changed very abruptly, depending on the political needs of the administration or on Hollywood's perception of its audience and its market," Koppes says. "There were wild swings in the portrayal of certain subjects, even though the reality of those subjects hadn't changed at all."

A prime example, according to Koppes, was Hollywood's treatment of the Soviet Union. Before 1941, American films were uniformly negative in their portrayal of the Soviets if they were portrayed at all. From 1942 to 1945 almost all movies concerning the Soviet Union were "positive, glowing accounts, the most notorious being 'Mission to Moscow,' in which Stalin's version of the purge trials are bought hook, line, and sinker, and Stalin emerges as an avuncular figure who is one step from being a democrat," Koppes says. After the war, Hollywood's treatment of the Soviets was, as it was before the war, almost uniformly negative until well into the 1950's.

The government, Koppes and Black conclude, allied itself with an oligopoly and reinforced that industry's concentration of power in molding images for the public -- images that served the short-term political goals of an administration in wartime, but not the long-term goals of a nation facing a changed world.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 30 (JTA) -- Profits from the sale of "Welcome" -- a new, glossy magazine devoted to Pope John Paul II's September visit to America -- will be used to help finance a traveling exhibition of Judaica from the Vatican Library, it was announced by Albert Wood, a spokesperson for the National Committee for the Vatican Judaica Exhibition. A number of U.S. Catholic charities will also benefit from sales of the publication. The Vatican Judaica Exhibition contains Jewish manuscripts produced between the 8th and 18th centuries. The works are on loan from the Vatican Library's collection of 800 Judaica manuscripts. A chapter in "Welcome" is devoted to the exhibition. The Pope is scheduled to bless the exhibition, which opened at the Miami Center for the Fine Arts on July 17, in Miami on Sept. 10.

JEWISH, CATHOLIC LEADERS REPORT CORDIAL MEETING IN PREPARATION FOR UNPRECEDENTED TALKS WITH POPE

By Edwin Eytan

ROME, Aug. 31 (JTA) -- Jewish representatives and senior Catholic officials conferred for close to 10 hours Monday in what both sides described as "a warm, cordial and friendly atmosphere" laying the groundwork for Tuesday's meetings with Pope John Paul II and the Vatican's Secretary of State, Cardinal Agostino Casaroli.

Msgr. William Keeler, who chairs the American Bishop's Commission for Relations with Jews, said Monday's meeting "was like a meeting between brothers." Rabbi Mordecai Waxman, who heads the Jewish delegation, said "It was a constructive and cordial meeting."

The nine-man Jewish delegation will confer Tuesday morning with Casaroli and then will be driven in official Vatican limousines to the Pope's summer residence at Castel Gandolfo for their historic meeting with the Pontiff.

That meeting is expected to last 60 to 90 minutes, and will be attended by Casaroli and other high-ranking Vatican officials.

'Frank And Open' Meeting

The Vatican has informed the Jewish delegation that the meeting with the Pope will be "frank and open," and that the delegation can raise all issues it thinks suitable without any reservations. One Catholic official has told members of the delegation, "It will be a session of give and take."

Both sides Monday imposed, at the Vatican's request, a total news blackout until after the meeting with the Pope, but conference officials said the Vatican delegation has indicated that it will seriously consider issuing a formal Vatican document which will energetically and unambiguously condemn revisionist tendencies toward the Holocaust and recall the martyrdom then of the Jewish people. Such a document would still need formal Vatican approval and probably take months to elaborate and draft. It would clarify the Vatican's stand on these crucial questions and guide hundreds of million of Catholics throughout the world.

Such a statement has been one of the Jewish delegation's requests. Many Jewish leaders believe it would help combat anti-Semitism and the "de-Judaization" of the Holocaust and serve as a barrier against revisionist tendencies.

Psalm, Meals, Four Issues

The two delegations, nine Jews and nine high-ranking Catholic prelates, began their Monday meeting at 9:30 a.m. with the reading of Psalm 67. Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, president of the Synagogue Council of America, read the verses in Hebrew and Dr. Eugene Fisher of the U.S. National Conference of Catholic Bishops read it in English.

The two delegations sat at a horseshoe-shaped table. A Vatican official explained, "We wanted to sit together like brothers and friends, and not facing each other like strangers." All four points on the agenda were raised. The first item

was the Pope's meeting with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim. After the initial presentation by Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum of the American Jewish Committee, the discussion became general and at times warm, but remained courteous in tone. All sides appeared keen to reach an understanding.

The Vatican delegates reiterated to some extent the known arguments for the audience and the meeting's background. Although the Catholic spokesmen did not express their regret in so many words, the general undertone reportedly went in that direction.

Several of the Jewish delegates paid tribute to Johannes Cardinal Willebrands, president of the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, for his understanding and feeling for the Jewish outrage.

Possible Breakthrough On Israel

The political issue, dealing with the Vatican's non-recognition of Israel, was raised by Seymour Reich, president of B'nai B'rith International, and Geoffrey Wigoder of the Israeli Interfaith Committee. Several of the Catholic representatives responded but -- and this is considered an important change -- used political and not theological arguments to explain the Vatican's refusal to recognize Israel and establish diplomatic relations with the Jewish State.

The Vatican position was explained by Msgr. Luigi Gatti, a member of the Secretariat of State. It is the first known instance in which a Vatican diplomat attended such a meeting and played an active role.

The Catholic delegation hosted the Jewish delegation at a kosher lunch. Rabbi Leon Klenicki of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith recited the blessings in Hebrew and English. All the delegates wore yarmulkes throughout the meal.

Willebrands sat at a table with Waxman, chairman of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC); Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Klaperman; and Henry Siegmán, executive director of the American Jewish Congress.

The Jewish delegation Monday night returned the invitation and hosted a dinner at its hotel for the Catholic representatives.

'Mending Of Fences' Seen

Vatican-watchers believe that the overall tendency within the Church hierarchy is towards a "mending of fences with the Jews" after the crisis provoked by the Pope's June 25 meeting with Waldheim -- regardless of the Pope's forthcoming U.S. trip and his September 11 scheduled meeting with Jewish representatives in Miami. One veteran Vatican-observer told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, "this process englobes all major aspects of the Church's attitude towards the Jews."

The U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See, Frank Shakespeare, told the JTA, "Even where Israel is concerned, things are slowly moving ahead." The envoy explained that the Vatican's decisions are generally slow, "but a certain progress towards the Vatican's recognition of Israel is in process."

Both Shakespeare and the U.S. Ambassador to Italy, Maxwell Rabb, attended a reception given by the Jewish delegation. The president of the Italian Jewish community, Tullia Zevi, was also present in spite of a certain dissatisfaction among West European Jewish communities over what they feel is an attempt to keep them out of the current negotiations.

U.S. PLEDGES TO HELP ISRAEL FIND ALTERNATIVE TO DISCONTINUED LAVI

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31 (JTA) -- The Reagan Administration promised Monday to help Israel find an alternative to the development of the Lavi jet fighter -- which the Israel Cabinet voted to discontinue Sunday -- as well as lessen any economic difficulties caused by the decision.

"We recognize this was a very difficult decision for Israel," State Department spokesperson Phyllis Oakley said of the Cabinet's 12-11 vote. "But we believe it will best serve Israel's interests."

The Cabinet vote culminated months of bitter debate and came under pressure from the United States, the Israel Finance and Defense ministries and many Israeli military officers. They all argued that the project was too costly and would take money from Israel's other defense needs.

Oakley noted that the U.S. "pledged" to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin during his visit here in July that "we would work closely with Israeli officials in a number of areas to maximize the benefits of every U.S. security assistance dollar and to help identify ways to ameliorate the dislocation caused by the decision to terminate the Lavi.

"Our joint efforts will continue in an established bilateral framework to assure the maintenance of Israel's qualitative edge over its potential adversaries during the coming years."

Inducements Confirmed

While Rabin indicated during his July visit that he no longer supported the Lavi, Oakley's remarks were the first public confirmation by the U.S. that inducements had been offered by the Reagan Administration.

One incentive was Israeli co-production of the next generation of the U.S. F-16 jet, the Agile Falcon fighter. "The government of Israel has several options to explore for possible co-production with current F-16 aircraft as an alternative to the Lavi," Oakley said. She added that the U.S. "will be consulting closely" with Israel on this.

Oakley would not comment on a letter delivered Saturday night by U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering to Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Rabin.

The 10-point letter reportedly expressed U.S. approval of using some of the \$1.8 billion in annual U.S. military assistance to cover the cost of cancelling contracts for the Lavi and agreement to increase to \$400 million the amount of the military aid that could be converted to Israeli currency. This means Israel could use the money to develop its own weapons rather than buy American arms.

The Cabinet also agreed to a proposal from Peres to allocate \$100 million to Israel Aircraft Industries, which was to have built the Lavi, to develop "future technologies" based on the devel-

opments for the Lavi for use in an Israeli-made jet fighter in the 21st century, already called the Lavi 2000.

This is expected to save the jobs of some 5,000 to 6,000 engineers and technicians who had been working on the Lavi. However, thousands of workers are still expected to be laid off as a result of the Cabinet decision. (See story below.)

AIRCRAFT WORKERS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST CABINET DECISION TO SCRAP THE LAVI

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Aug. 31 (JTA) -- Thousands of disgruntled workers from Israel Aircraft Industries carried out their threats Monday and disrupted traffic in Tel Aviv and central Israel in protest against the Cabinet decision Sunday to scrap the Lavi warplane project.

The workers forced hundreds of cars to use alternate routes by blocking off the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway with burning tires. Tourists missed flights out of the country because of the traffic jams. Others marched through the streets of Tel Aviv to Labor party headquarters, blocking traffic on central roads. The IAI workers were incensed with Labor Party leader Shimon Peres who led the opposition to producing the Lavi. Police refrained from using force to disperse the demonstrators.

An atmosphere of gloom pervaded at IAI offices at Lod Airport Monday as Ovadia Harari, head of the Lavi project, announced that he was requested to lay off 3,000 workers Tuesday with a second round of 3,000 soon to come. State-owned IAI is Israel's largest employer with some 20,000 workers. Harari said the immediate dismissals would include 1,000 engineers.

"Many asked me what we should do? I told them: Don't do anything, just sit at home and wait to be fired," Harari said. "Some retorted: We won't wait, we shall leave the country on our own."

Efforts To Ease Tensions

The workers warned they would continue their protests Tuesday. A meeting between representatives of the demonstrating workers and Premier Yitzhak Shamir -- during which Shamir promised an effort to bring the issue to a second Cabinet vote -- eased tensions.

Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens, who threatened to resign over the Cabinet decision Sunday, announced he would delay his resignation until the prospects for a second vote were clarified. Yisrael Kessar, Histadrut Secretary General, also promised IAI workers Monday he would try to exert his influence to reverse the decision.

Peres cautioned against raising false hopes among the workers and rejected the option of a second vote saying it would bring no change.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin said there was no need for immediate layoffs and promised to coordinate the dismissal process with the Minister of Labor and Welfare so that many workers will be absorbed in other industries.

Some 125 smaller plants throughout the country will also feel the effects of the discontinuation of the Lavi.

There will be no Daily News Bulletin dated September 7, Labor Day, which is a postal holiday.

BRANDEIS U. TO BRING TOGETHER ISRAELIS AND ARABS IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAM

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Aug. 31 (JTA) -- A unique program to bring together Israelis and Arabs working in health care, social services and job training in their respective countries is expected to begin next June at the Florence Heller Graduate School for Advanced Studies in Social Welfare at Brandeis University, it was announced here at Brandeis House. The cochairmen for the Middle East Fellowship Program, all Americans, include a Catholic, a Moslem and a Jew.

The program is subject to official review and approval at the October meeting of the Brandeis Board of Trustees. However, Dr. Evelyn Handler, president of Brandeis -- which is located in Waltham, Mass. -- said that "it was important that we move forward this month, and that's why we're making the announcement before the event."

The announcement last Thursday capitalized on the recently accepted chairmanship by a Catholic leader of very high profile: John Cardinal O'Connor, Archbishop of New York.

Serving under O'Connor, the other two cochairmen are Dr. Kamal Batniji, an American Palestinian-Arab surgeon and founding president of the American-Arab Medical Organization, and Henry Taub, founding chairman of the board of ADP Corp. and formerly president of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. Taub has already committed a quarter of a million dollars over the next 10 years.

Intention Of The Organizers

The fellowship program, which will provide advanced executive training for people of proven leadership qualities who work in the fields of health and social welfare, intends to steer clear of politics and focus instead on people. The intention of the program's organizers is to foster personal friendships between Arabs and Jews who will be living and studying together under one roof for 15 months. Graduates will receive a master's degree in human services management. A condition of acceptance for the program is that the graduates return to their own countries.

The lofty goals include the expectation that these students, once they become friends, will return to their countries to take positions of authority, and will base their future work on personal understanding that defies political differences.

The program's aspiration was summed up by the chairman of the international advisory board of the Heller School's Center for Social Policy in the Middle East, Joseph Califano, former U.S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare. He said, "We hope they (the students) will remain friends and colleagues for life... Political leaders make treaties, but people make peace."

Background Of The Program

Califano explained the background to the program's conception from personal recollection. In November 1978, after the signing of the Camp David Accords, he met with the Israeli and Egyptian Ministers of health, education and social services to try "to use the United States as a catalyst to get Egyptians and Israelis to work together in this country and in each others' nations on common problems." Appropriate Ministers in each country were often enthusiastic,

Califano said, and "sometimes we even signed agreements." But little happened and interest dwindled after Califano and the Ministers involved left their posts.

Then, in 1982, Brandeis Prof. Leonard Hausman urged Califano to chair a Center for Social Policy in the Middle East. Hausman became the center's director. This would transfer to the private sector the same idea Califano had tried in government. The center was launched in 1983.

In February, as part of the center's operations, Israeli and Egyptian doctors and health officials spent two weeks at Brandeis, in Washington and Los Angeles. A repeat of this is planned for Tel Aviv and Cairo in the fall and early next year. A similar program had been planned two years ago, but was stopped by the hijacking of the Achille Lauro, Califano said.

This past June, Hausman and Califano went on an intensive two-week trip to the Middle East to discuss the idea for the special program with Egyptian, Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian leaders in government and private sectors.

O'Connor Willing To Open Doors

Before the trip, Califano, at Taub's urging, met with O'Connor, who "expressed a willingness to open some doors for us on the West Bank, at Bethlehem University and in Jordan."

O'Connor asked for a report on the trip when they returned, and when he received it he expressed immediate willingness to chair the program, said Califano, including the effort to raise a \$10 million endowment. He also agreed to be a vice chairman of the Center's international Board of Advisors, joining Leo Fields of Dallas and former Secretary of State Alexander Haig.

Such a program has precedence at Brandeis. For 28 years, Brandeis has hosted hundreds of international students from over 100 countries who, said Handler, "have enriched the lives of the American students on our campus and who themselves, after undergraduate training and graduate training, have gone back to their respective countries and have made enormous contributions to the welfare of those countries. They continue to be a marvelous link to the United States of America."

A New And Different Effort

The proposed program is an embarkation on "a very new and very different effort," said Handler, where Israelis and Moslem and Christian Arabs from Egypt, Jordan and Palestinians from the Israeli-administered territories will be enrolled in a 10-year-old program in the area of human services and, "in the atmosphere of peace, will learn to understand each other, will exchange their concerns about the individuals who live in their respective countries, will make contributions on their return to their native lands and will continue to form the human network necessary for peace in the Middle East."

Handler said the program, to operate under the Center's auspices, has the "extraordinary help of the many members of the community that the Archbishop leads, as well as many members of the American Arab community. We hope that by bringing these many students together in our program, we will begin a path that has not yet been tried in other places in the United States."

The initial class will include up to 10 students, with hopes to expand to 30 in about three years. Criteria for choosing candidates for the program include "the highest professional recom-

mendations, including a work profile indicating steady progress toward upper levels of responsibility in either the public or private sectors; management experience as a department head or higher; an outstanding academic record, including completion of a B.A. or its equivalent, and a good knowledge of written and spoken English."

Candidates will be chosen by a panel of experts at Brandeis and in the participating countries. Applications will be due by January 15 of the year in which study begins. There will be financial awards available, announced in the spring.

B'NAI B'RITH CANADA URGES ACTION ON ALLEGED NAZIS

HAMILTON, Ont., Aug. 31 (JTA) -- The national officers of B'nai B'rith Canada (BBC), meeting here, have passed three resolutions calling on the Canadian government to take immediate action in response to the revelations of Nazi war criminals living in Canada as contained in the Rodal report released August 6.

The 600-page report documented among other things that in 1983 two alleged Nazi war criminals, one with a background in the Waffen SS, were admitted to Canada with the complicity of a senior member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), who destroyed vital immigration documents.

BBC has urged the government to commence proceedings to remove the two former Nazis, and to take disciplinary action against those responsible for their admission and the disappearance of the files.

A resolution by the BBC League for Human Rights appealed the deletions of the heavily censored Rodal report to the Canadian Information Commissioner, questioning if in fact all the deletions were justified. The government initially claimed that the Rodal appendix to the Deschenes Commission report on Nazi criminals was too sensitive to release because it could lead to the identification of suspected war criminals.

Ottawa historian Alti Rodal acknowledged that due to the time limits imposed on her research and the sheer quantity of the classified records, her report has significant gaps, according to BBC. The report contains little or no treatment of the post-1960's history of admitting and protecting Nazi war criminals.

The third resolution called on the government to present a report completing the work that the Deschenes Commission was unable to do because of time constraints.

Commenting on the resolutions, David Matas, senior legal counsel and vice president of BBC, stated, "It was imperative that all the data pertaining to the entry and destruction of files be made known to the Canadian populace."

Frank Dimant, BBC executive vice president, stated, "We are concerned that cover-ups in previous governments are an unhealthy episode in the history of this country. The Canadian community is entitled to know what the positions were of previous Premiers and the directives given from these men to the Cabinet Ministers."

FOUNDER OF THE ZIM LINE DEAD AT 78

TEL AVIV, Aug. 31 (JTA) -- Naftali Wydra, founder of the Zim Israel National Shipping Line and later founder and manager of the Israel Shipping and Aviation Research Institute, died

Wednesday at age 78. Wydra was born in Leipzig, Germany, and educated at German universities before immigrating to Palestine in 1933, when he opened a shipping and customs clearing agency.

In 1936, he took over the Jewish Agency's Maritime Division and in 1947 organized and managed the Zim Shipping Company, serving as its general manager until 1966. He developed it from a one-ship company to an international concern operating 150 vessels, 70 of them its own.

In the early 1960's, Wydra founded and organized the Black Star Shipping Line for Ghana and the Five Star Line for Burma.

Wydra served from 1969-81 as chairman of the Israel Ports Authority, and then founded the research institute that he managed until his death.

GROWING NUMBER OF YOUNG ARABS IN THE ADMINISTERED AREAS ARE ADOPTING KHOMEINI'S DOCTRINE By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Aug. 31 (JTA) -- Sheffy Gabai, the eminent Arab affairs correspondent of Maariv, reported Thursday that the number of young Arabs in the administered territories who are adopting Khomeini's doctrine is growing year to year.

They are organized in cells throughout the territories and occasionally try to intimidate other Moslem believers, Gabai says, quoting a Moslem cleric in East Jerusalem following the recent capture of a terrorist squad that planned to plant a car-bomb in Jerusalem.

According to the cleric, the young Khomeini followers in the territories are heavily financed by the Iranian leadership, which wants to set up a Khomeinist core in both Jordan and the territories.

It is known that Hizbullah leaders in Lebanon have received permission from Iran to cooperate with Fatah in perpetrating terrorist attacks in Israel and in kidnapping foreigners under the rubric of "Al-Jihad Al-Islami for the Liberation of Palestine."

It was under this name that two recently apprehended terrorist squads operated in Israel: the car-bomb squad and the squad that carried out the Dung Gate attack late last year, the Maariv reporter said.

The newly-recruited Khomeinists are often past members of Islamic movements which operate freely in the territories and do not rule out the use of firearms in the belief that only in this way can the Islamic revolution in the region be fomented.

The majority of the Moslems in Israel and the territories belong to moderate trends and reject the attempts of the Khomeinists to impose their will.

SCIENTISTS MEET IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Aug. 31 (JTA) -- Some 700 scientists from around the world are presently in Israel attending the 22nd triennial conference of the International Scientific Radio Union. The foreign participants include the Deputy Minister of Communications of the People's Republic of China and top radio scientists from the Soviet Union, India, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary. Egypt sent a delegate but Iraq, which is also a member of the Union, did not.

**LIKUD ATTEMPTS TO BLOCK LABOR FROM MAKING DEAL ON WZO POSTS**

By Gil Sedau

JERUSALEM, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Likud is working strenuously to nullify an agreement worked out last week between the Labor Party and several major American constituents of the World Zionist Organization that would kill Likud's chances of electing a candidate to either of the two top WZO posts at the World Zionist Congress here in December.

The agreement assures that Labor candidate Akiva Lewinsky, presently the WZO treasurer, will be elected chairman of the WZO and Jewish Agency executives, succeeding Likud-Liberal Leon (Arye) Dulzin.

In return for their support of Lewinsky, the office of WZO treasurer will go the Confederation of United Zionists, of which Hadassah is the largest component. Other top portfolios are slated for the Association of Reform Zionists of America and the Conservative Zionist organization, Mercaz.

According to a report in the Jerusalem Post, Labor, the Confederation, ARZA and Mercaz together control 320 of the 535 delegates to the forthcoming Zionist Congress.

Likud's main argument against the deal is that it is inconceivable that one of the two largest political parties in Israel will be frozen out of both of the highest WZO posts, chairman and treasurer. Likud believes, however, that Labor's new coalition with the American Zionists is on shaky ground and could be unravelled.

That opinion was expressed by Gideon Patt, a member of the Liberal wing of the Likud bloc whose name is the only one mentioned so far to challenge Lewinsky for the WZO chairmanship.

Patt, who is science and technology minister in the Cabinet, has not officially announced his candidacy for the WZO post. He met for consultations Monday with Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Knesset member Moshe Arens, both of Likud's Herut wing, to assess the situation.

So far, Likud has not been able to persuade the American factions to abandon their pact with Labor. Mattityahu Drobles, the Herut faction leader in the WZO, warned last weekend that the agreement threatens the very existence of the Zionist movement.

Drobles, who has been mentioned for the post of WZO treasurer, said if Labor does not agree to share the two top offices with Likud, "this will undermine all other aspects of our partnership in the Zionist movement."

ISRAEL WILL INSIST ON NO CUT IN U.S. AID, CABINET DECIDES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Reports that Israel is prepared to forgo \$80 million in U.S. military aid in recognition of U.S. efforts to cut the federal budget were officially denied Tuesday by the Defense Ministry.

There is no such intention and the issue was never discussed, a ministry spokesman said. "On the contrary, in the Cabinet's meeting on Sunday it was agreed in accordance with a proposal by

the defense minister that Israel will insist on receiving the aid in its entirety, especially in the face of the (Reagan) administration's commitment in writing on the issue to the ministers of defense and finance, after cancellation of the Lavi project," the spokesman said.

He added that the American administration has not approached Israel with respect to reducing aid, a direct contradiction of a report in Maariv on Monday that American officials are feeling out Israel on the matter.

The Cabinet dropped the Lavi jet fighter-plane project in the face of both U.S. and internal pressure that the plan was too expensive. The \$80 million constitutes 4.5 percent of the \$1.8 billion in U.S. military aid to Israel in the coming year.

Moreover, Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres rejected a proposal Monday by Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin to take preventive measures in the face of a cut in American aid, Haaretz reported Tuesday.

In this matter they joined Finance Minister Moshe Nissim, who proposed that the Cabinet wait until the state of the U.S. economy becomes more clear. Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno does not believe American aid will be affected by the economic uncertainties in the United States, according to Haaretz.

Shamir told the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee on Tuesday that to connect the stock market crisis with U.S. aid was "an immoral and brutal behavior, which contradicts our interests."

Peres said Monday that it is too early to judge the significance of the American stock market plunge of Oct. 19 on the American economy. He said, however, that U.S. aid already has been reduced in real terms as a result of inflationary trends. But "considering the rising demand for weapons, the U.S. will certainly not harm the defense aid," Peres said.

The Foreign Ministry meanwhile has instructed the Israel Embassy in Washington to refrain from any specific activities in Congress and the administration with respect to military aid, Haaretz reported.

SLEPAKS ARRIVE IN ISRAEL WITH DELIGHT AND A WARNING
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Vladimir Slepak, a pioneer of the aliyah movement among Soviet Jews, arrived in Israel Monday night with a warning against being fooled by the apparent liberalization of Soviet emigration policies that allowed him and his wife, Maria, to leave the Soviet Union 17 years after they first applied for an exit visa.

The release of the Slepaks and a dozen other longtime refuseniks in recent weeks is "a well-known tactic, a concession to the West from which the Soviets want something," Slepak told the enthusiastic crowd that greeted the couple at Ben-Gurion Airport.

Weary from his long journey, which included a 24-hour wait in Vienna for a flight to Israel, Slepak spoke in Russian of his delight at being in

his homeland. "It's not for nothing that they say the Jews are an optimistic people. To dream 2,000 years for a homeland, and then to reach it, can be achieved only by people of great optimism, by a great people," Slepak said.

He seemed to be alluding to his own optimism as well. Asked how he managed to survive 17 years of struggle with Kremlin officials, including five years' exile in Siberia, the former radio engineer said: "I am a simple man with a simple strength. Many, many of us, in my place, would have done the same." Slepak will celebrate his 60th birthday Thursday.

His dogged determination to gain permission to emigrate for himself and other Soviet Jews began upon Israel's victory in the 1967 Six-Day War. Slepak was among the first group of Jews in the Soviet Union to petition the United Nations by letter for the right of Jews to emigrate.

'Won't Forget

"It is not my personal accomplishment that we are here," Slepak said. "It is the right of the Jewish people everywhere --in Israel, in America, in the Soviet Union ... We won't forget those non-Jews who helped us." The emigration in this generation of 250,000 Soviet Jews "is an accomplishment of all of us," he said.

He added, "But friends, I want to warn you that while some Jews have left, that doesn't mean that there has been a change in Soviet policy."

The welcoming reception for the Slepaks was simpler than those organized for other prominent activists, such as last year's for Natan Sharansky and Ida Nudel's two weeks ago.

About 100 Soviet immigrants were waiting at the airport with an array of government and Jewish Agency dignitaries including Absorption Minister Yaacov Tsur; Jewish Agency Executive chairman Leon Dulzin; Haim Aharon, head of the agency's immigration department; and Fina Feinberg, chairperson of the Soviet Immigrants Association.

Asked if he would try to convince his sons Alexander and Leonid, who left the Soviet Union some years ago for the United States, to join him in Israel, Slepak replied that his sons "are adults and can make up their own minds. For me, I've made my decision -- to be here."

DEMJANJUK TRIAL RESUMES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- The trial of suspected war criminal John Demjanjuk resumed here Monday after a two-month recess, with a determined effort by the defense to discredit a key document that could prove the 66-year-old, Ukrainian-born former automobile worker from Cleveland, Ohio is the brutal Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

The defense, in fact, was in shambles when the trial adjourned last August. Demjanjuk fired his American attorney, Mark O'Connor, and hired an entirely new defense team after a succession of Treblinka survivors identified him as "Ivan."

Even more damaging was the testimony of experts that an SS identification card bearing a photograph of Demjanjuk at about age 22 was authentic. The ID card was issued to Ukrainians and other prisoners of war who volunteered for guard duty at Treblinka.

The prosecution obtained the original card from Soviet authorities. The defense insists it is a KGB forgery. The first defense witness Monday,

Avraham Shifrin, an expert on the KGB, tried to convince the court of this. His testimony at points bordered on the bizarre.

Shifrin spoke at length about the so-called "supernatural" powers of the KGB. He said the Soviet secret service recruited witches, "even from Africa," to control people. They also controlled peoples' minds with cosmic rays, he charged.

He said he was convinced that the document incriminating Demjanjuk was forged and that once the trial is over and the suspect is convicted, the KGB will admit to the forgery, making Israel's legal system a laughingstock throughout the world.

The defense contends the KGB wanted to incriminate Demjanjuk as a measure against Ukrainian nationalism. Shifrin said it forged thousands of documents accusing Russians and Ukrainians in collaboration with the Germans during World War II. He said the KGB regularly sends Christmas cards to famous people and when a polite thank-you note is returned, the signature is filed for future forgery.

The prosecution is not buying Shifrin's testimony. State attorney Yona Blatman accused the witness of seeking a platform to dramatize his opposition to the Soviet regime and the KGB.

The court overruled a prosecution objection but warned defense attorney Yoram Sheftel to ask only relevant questions. "Remember, it's not the Soviet system or the KGB that is on trial here," presiding Judge Dov Levin said.

THREE JDL MEMBERS SENTENCED FOR 'TERRORIST' BOMBINGS

NEW YORK, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Three members of the Jewish Defense League were sentenced Monday for carrying out a series of "terrorist" bombings here aimed at protesting the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union.

Victor Vancier, 30, of Queens, N.Y., a former chairman of the Jewish Defense League, was sentenced to 10 years in prison Monday by Judge I. Leo Glasser of the federal district court in Brooklyn.

In imposing the sentence, the judge told Vancier, "You don't go bombing innocent people to make a point."

At a separate session earlier in the day, Murray Young, 60, of East Meadow, N.Y., received a five-year term and Sharon Katz, 44, of Manhattan, was given a three-year suspended sentence and five years' probation, which includes six months of house arrest.

The incidents for which they were convicted included the firebombing at Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center on Oct. 20, 1986, the day the Moscow State Symphony was scheduled to perform, and the tear gas grenade attack at the Metropolitan Opera House in September 1986, which injured 20 people among the audience attending a performance of the Moiseyev Dance Company.

Vancier, Young and another JDL member, Jay Cohen, 24, pleaded guilty last August to racketeering charges involving bombings, arson, extortion and fraud, for which they faced maximum sentences of 20 years. Katz pleaded guilty only to the Metropolitan Opera incident. Cohen was found dead of a drug overdose at a Catskills hotel last month. According to the authorities, Vancier served as JDL chairman from April 1985 to November 1986.

WOJAC CONFERENCE HEARS OF PLIGHT OF JEWS FORCED TO LEAVE ARAB LANDS

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Any negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries must include the issue of the some 800,000 Jews who were forced to leave the Arab countries after Israel was established, an Israeli diplomat stressed Tuesday.

"Their immense suffering and deprivation, their sacrifices and tragedies, must be at the center of negotiations," Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, told the third international conference of the World Organization of Jews from Arab Countries (WOJAC).

Some 300 Jewish leaders from North and South America, Europe and Israel are attending the three-day conference which began Monday night at the Omni Shoreham Hotel here. The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations is coordinator of the conference.

WOJAC was founded in 1975 to press the claims of Jews who were forced to leave Arab countries and whose plight had not received the attention given to Arabs who left at the establishment of the Jewish state, chiefly at the urging of the Arab countries.

Netanyahu's point was also made by Israeli President Chaim Herzog in a telegram to the opening session of the conference, read by Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador to Washington.

Two Refugee Problems

"The world does not realize that two major refugee problems exist in the Middle East at the same time," Herzog said. "One of them has received the widest possible exposure in the public consciousness, while the other has been ignored."

"An understanding of the total picture...is vital as we move slowly, but surely, along the road toward peace in the Middle East."

Netanyahu said Israel has made a "mistake" in not stressing "the forced exodus of Jews from Arab countries" as a "top priority in our foreign policy." He said this has allowed the belief to exist that "we are the dispossessor, when in fact we are the dispossessed."

The majority of Israelis are not Western immigrants, but Jews born in the Middle East, Netanyahu said.

He said the reason for the misconception is that Israel did not put the refugees in camps, as the Arab countries did. "We didn't let them fester and rot, we didn't use them as breeding grounds for terrorists." The Jews who came to Israel were integrated and are "proud citizens of Israel."

A Call For Compensation

He said more Jews were forced to leave Arab countries than Arabs left Israel and they left behind five times the property the Arabs did. He said these Jews should receive compensation from the Arab countries.

Professor Ya'akov Meron of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem told the conference that when the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 242 after the 1967 Six-Day War, it rejected a Soviet-Arab demand that the Palestinian Arabs be specifically mentioned. Instead, the Security Council made it clear it wanted "all of the refugees of the Arab-Israel conflict" to be

justly considered "Jewish refugees from Arab lands, and Arabs who had left Israel," Meron said.

There must be "justice for the forgotten million -- the Jews of the Arab world who left their native lands a generation ago in flight from persecution, physical abuse, imprisonment and the confiscation of their property," said Leon Tamman of London, chairman of the WOJAC Presidium.

He said that as a result of this forced exodus there are only about 25,000 Jews left in the Arab world and, except for Morocco, these countries bar Jews from emigrating and do not allow those who fled to visit "the shrines and spiritual treasures they left behind."

The purpose of the conference is to make these facts known, said Kenneth Bialkin, the conference chairman.

SENATE URGES U.N. RESOLUTION ON ZIONISM BE RESCINDED

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- A sense-of-the-Senate resolution urging the United States to support efforts to have the United Nations General Assembly rescind its 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism was adopted last Friday night.

The resolution, introduced by Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.), declares that the U.N. resolution "has been unhelpful in the context of the search for a settlement in the Middle East; is inconsistent with the Charter of the United Nations; remains unacceptable as a misrepresentation of Zionism; has served to escalate religious animosity and incite anti-Semitism."

A similar resolution has been introduced in the House by Reps. Hamilton Fish and Benjamin Gilman (both R-N.Y.).

A spokesman for Moynihan said the senator hopes that the House resolution will be adopted before Israeli President Chaim Herzog arrives in Washington Nov. 10 for a state visit. It was Moynihan who introduced a resolution adopted by the Senate earlier this month urging President Reagan to invite Herzog for the first state visit to Washington by an Israeli president.

The resolution is similar to one adopted by the Australian Senate and House before Herzog's visit to that country, according to Moynihan's spokesman.

Moynihan and Herzog represented their countries at the United Nations when the General Assembly adopted the resolution. Moynihan said Tuesday that the resolution "was a direct attempt to delegitimize the State of Israel. This resolution was opposed by nearly every democratic nation on Earth and by many nations which are not so democratic. It is far past the time that we right this wrong."

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET UP TUESDAY

TEL AVIV, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange rallied Tuesday to recover 1-2 percent of losses sustained earlier in the week. The improvement was attributed to the re-entry into the market of a brokerage firm that had stopped dealing in shares several months ago. It placed large orders, apparently in search of bargains, pushing prices up.

Local investors have lost an estimated \$750 million in the value of their holdings since the Wall Street crash on Oct. 19.

RIGHT WING WINS IN FRENCH ZIONIST ELECTIONS; BELGIAN TALLY SPLIT

PARIS, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- French Jews who cast ballots Sunday for 25 delegates to the upcoming World Zionist Congress in Jerusalem clearly favored the right wing. In Belgium, where eight seats were at stake, the election Sunday underlined the sharp rift between the secular Jews of Brussels and the more traditional and Orthodox Jews of Antwerp.

The French Herut-National Bloc list representing Herut and Mizrahi (religious Zionists) and several allied lists won 14 delegates to the December Congress, according to figures which, however, are not final.

The Herut list itself won nine delegates. Siona, a list representing Jews from North Africa and which sympathizes with Herut, won two delegates. Among other pro-Herut groups, the Youth list won two delegates and the Union of Community Workers one.

The Avoda list won six delegates, the General Zionists and the Union of Jewish Students won two each, and the leftist Mapam either one or two. Of 35,000 eligible voters, 8,600 went to the polls, about 25 percent.

In Belgium, the Union for a Living Zionism, an alliance between the leftist Mapam, Hashomer Hatzair and independents -- headed by David Susskind, founding president of the Brussels Jewish Community's Secular Center -- emerged with three delegates. The Mizrahi-Hapoel Hamizrachi list garnered two.

In Belgium, 2,468 persons cast ballots out of 6,300 eligible voters, about 40 percent. The good showing by the secular groups was attributed to Susskind's ability to mobilize support around his community center. He has been critical of some Israeli policies, particularly with respect to the administered territories, and favors an international conference for Middle East peace.

Among the other lists, Herut, Hanoar Hatzioni, Confederation of Youth and Students and Avoda each won a single delegate.

ISRAEL TO STAGE LAVISH PRODUCTION OF VERDI OPERA

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- The most lavish and costly project in operatic history, a \$11.5 million production of Giuseppe Verdi's "Nabucco" (Nebuchadnezzar), will be performed a dozen times in Jerusalem next May as the major attraction of Israel's year-long celebration to mark its 40th anniversary of independence.

First performed in 1842 at La Scala, in Milan, Italy, the four-act opera tells the story of Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian king who ordered the destruction of Jerusalem in 587 BCE, and the exile of the Jewish people to Babylon.

"The opera will have a magnificent setting at the Sultan's Pool, known formally as the Hassenfeld Amphitheater, just outside the city's walls, at a site originally selected by King Herod for Jerusalem's water supply," Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem told a crowded news conference at the Plaza Hotel here Tuesday.

"It was in Jerusalem that the massacre of the Jews took place when the city was overwhelmed by Babylonian forces headed by King Nebuchadnezzar," Kollek said.

Michael Ecker, president of Opera on Original Site (OOS), a Swiss-based company special-

izing in staging operas at their original location, is the producer of "Nabucco." He said at the news conference that 12 performances are planned from May 15-29, 1988 with the possibility of four additional performances through June 2.

Major opera stars will take part in the production, Ecker disclosed. Those already signed to head the four alternating casts include such luminaries as Grace Bumbry, Olivia Stapp, Ingvar Wixell, Renato Bruson, Kurt Rydl, Martti Talveta and Piero Capuccilli.

Enormous Cast

According to the producer, the 7,700-seat Sultan's Pool amphitheater will be transformed to accommodate a tremendous cast, including a chorus of approximately 250 singers (the Pro-Musica Chorus of London) and about 850 non-singing performers.

Italian artistic director Vittorio Rossi, who will direct the production as well as provide settings and costumes, introduced during the news conference Tuesday some of the elaborate costumes he already designed for the show. He said that he decided to get involved with "Nabucco" because the opera's message is that "victory is truly in the hand of spirituality and peace."

Moshe Shoshani, head of Israel's Tourism Ministry in the United States, said he expects close to 70,000 tourists from all over the world to come to Israel to attend the "Nabucco" performances.

Nabucco is produced and organized by Opera on Original Site, in cooperation with the Israel Festival, the Israel Ministry of Tourism and the Association for Promoting Tourism in Israel. Also assisting the project is Operation Independence, an international organization of businessmen dedicated to the support of Israel.

ULLMANN, HUSBAND TO FUND STUDENTS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Oct. 27 (JTA) -- Norwegian film star Liv Ullmann was awarded an honorary Ph.D. by Haifa University this week, her seventh honorary doctorate.

Ullmann pledged that "for as long as I shall earn money," she would finance the education of an Arab student at Haifa University, and her husband Donald Saunders, who is Jewish, would finance that of a Jewish student.

Ullman dedicated the Ph.D. to the memory of Pavel Friedman, an 11-year-old Jewish boy murdered by the Nazis at Auschwitz. Two years previously, in the Theresienstadt ghetto, he wrote a poem about a yellow butterfly which survived him.

The award-winning actress said she often read the poem at fund-raising events.

Ullmann, who portrayed Soviet Jewish activist Ida Nudel in a recent film, met with Nudel, who arrived in Israel two weeks ago. She said Nudel had asked her, in her public appearances, to alert the world to the dangers of a new phenomenon in the Soviet Union -- the officially sanctioned existence of a far right-wing, pro-monarchist, anti-Semitic organization known as Pamyat.

The Soviet authorities point to Pamyat as an indication that they allow expressions of diverse opinion. Actually, the experts say, Pamyat is used as a safety valve to divert the criticism of the more liberal policies of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

**REAGAN SAYS HE AND GORBACHEV
WILL DISCUSS HUMAN RIGHTS**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- President Reagan said Friday that human rights will be on the agenda when he meets with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev here Dec. 7.

Flanked by Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Reagan announced the scheduling of the long-awaited summit after Shevardnadze had presented him with a letter from Gorbachev.

The White House meeting was held between day-long talks at the State Department by Shultz and Shevardnadze.

At the summit, the two superpower leaders are to sign a treaty to eliminate intermediate and short-range missiles, still being negotiated in Geneva, Reagan said. The president said he will discuss with Gorbachev a treaty to reduce strategic arms by 50 percent, which he hopes could be signed when he visits Moscow next year.

Reagan added that Shevardnadze and he agreed that his meeting with Gorbachev will also cover the "full range of issues" between the United States and the Soviet Union, "including bilateral, regional and human rights issues."

The summit was scheduled after Gorbachev had refused to set a date for the meeting when Shultz was in Moscow Oct. 22-23. But in a sudden about-face, Shevardnadze came to Washington, apparently bringing with him the summit date.

The National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) immediately welcomed the summit and expressed the hope that human rights, including the issue of Soviet Jewry, would be high on the agenda.

Mass Demonstration Set

Morris Abram, chairman of the NCSJ and of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, has scheduled a news conference in Washington Monday to announce plans for a mass demonstration in Washington during the summit to express support for Soviet Jewry.

(NCSJ sources in New York indicated the demonstration would take place on the evening of Sunday, Dec. 6, shortly after Gorbachev arrives in Washington. Former prisoner of conscience Ida Nudel, recently permitted to leave the Soviet Union, will appear at the mass protest.

(On Tuesday, some 40 representatives of groups within and outside the NCSJ umbrella are to meet in New York to finalize plans for the demonstration. Nobel prize-winning writer Elie Wiesel is serving as honorary chairman of the summit task force.)

**WAR CRIMES COMMISSION AGREES
ON PLAN TO OPEN NAZI FILES**

By Mark Joffe

NEW YORK, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- The 17 former member states of the Allied War Crimes Commission have finally agreed to a plan to open its files on more than 40,000 Nazi war criminals to public inspection. Eyal Arad, a spokesman for the Israel Mission to the United Nations, said in a

telephone interview Sunday that the mission had not been informed of the news, but had been able to confirm reports about the commission's decision that appeared Saturday in the New York Times.

Arad said U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar will announce the decision when he returns from Europe this week and is virtually certain to authorize opening the files, which officially are under his jurisdiction.

"The secretary general is not bound by any recommendations" of the commission, Arad said. But he added that Perez de Cuellar "told us that he wants to open the files. There's no point in dragging his feet any further," he said, now that the commission has decided.

Until now, the files of the long-defunct War Crimes Commission have been accessible only to the governments of member states of the United Nations. Israel has been pressing for some time that they be open to scholars, researchers, writers and journalists.

Initially, most of the 17 former member states of the commission were opposed. One by one they fell in line, however, and after several meetings over the last two months unanimous agreement was reached on a formula for public access.

Under the reported plan, responsibility for granting access will be transferred from the secretary general to the United Nations member governments, which will be free to authorize their citizens to inspect the files, stored at the United Nations archives on Park Avenue South, Manhattan.

'Important Victory' For Israel

Commenting on the commission's decision, Binyamin Netanyahu, ambassador of Israel to the United Nations, said, "This is an important victory over those who would distort and deny the terrible truths mankind should never forget if it is to retain its humanity."

Arad said the decision is likely to enhance Israel's standing in the international community. "We showed the world we have the power to pursue goals we believed in" and that "we can get what we want." He added, "We were helped immensely in our campaign by many Jewish organizations."

Responsibility for the files was transferred to the United Nations in 1948, after the War Crimes Commission completed its investigations. Israel's campaign gained momentum when Kurt Waldheim, a former secretary general of the United Nations, was elected president of Austria in the summer of 1986, after a campaign during which Jewish groups, mainly the World Jewish Congress, exposed the Nazi past which he had concealed for 40 years.

Waldheim is one of the 25,000 names on the list of so-called Class A suspects in the war crimes file against whom the commission felt it had sufficient evidence to prosecute. The list provides one-line summaries of the background of the suspects and the accusations against them.

Arad said the opening of the files will facilitate the prosecution of wanted Nazi war criminal Alois Brunner who now lives in Syria. The Syrian government has refused to comply

with an extradition warrant issued by the West German government years ago.

"We want to revive the whole issue and hopefully bring international pressure on Syria to release Brunner," Arad said. He observed that it was "not surprising" that Brunner lives in Syria. Noting that Amnesty International recently released a report on the use of torture in Syria, he said, "Where else could he feel at home?"

Brunner, whose file is in the archives, reportedly told the Chicago Sun-Times in an interview that he doesn't regret anything. He still lashes out against Jews.

Commenting on the decision to open the files, Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, called it "long overdue." He said the center has prepared a list of suspected war criminals still at large and would be asking for information about them when the files are opened.

ELECTION PROCEDURES WERE VALID, RULES WZO SUPREME COURT

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- The Supreme Court of the World Zionist Organization on Friday ruled in favor of two Zionist groups and against three others who contested the process by which American delegates were elected this spring to the 31st World Zionist Congress.

In ruling here Friday, the court accepted appeals of the election procedures brought by the Zionist Organization of America and Bnai Zion, but rejected appeals brought by the Religious Zionists of America, Americans for Progressive Israel and Students for Israel.

All five groups brought appeals against the Area Election Committee (AEC) of the American Zionist Federation, which conducted elections in May to determine representation at the Zionist congress, which convenes in Jerusalem on Dec. 6.

Some 210,957 American Jews participated in the May elections and on the basis of the returns, 152 mandates were apportioned to eight of nine competing slates representing various Zionist ideologies across the political spectrum.

The appellants were critical of a verification procedure adopted by the AEC which sought a more accurate count of eligible voters from the various ideological slates of the American Zionist Federation. In the process of tabulating votes, the AEC penalized organizations for voter eligibility discrepancies.

In their appeals, the RZA, API and Students for Israel maintained that they were each entitled to a larger share of the mandates than had been determined by the AEC procedure. (RZA received 14 mandates, API got one and the Students for Israel did not win any.) In addition, the RZA contended that the independent company hired to examine voter records, Equifax, collaborated with AEC officials in falsifying its findings.

In ruling against the appellants and for the AEC, the court said that it is the duty of a constituent body to attack election methods before the election, and not after.

Reading from the 19-page judgment, the court president, Justice Moshe Etzioni, said, "We would add that the conception of waiting for the results of an election before attacking the election method is, in our opinion, against public policy and inconsistent with the fair conduct demanded of a public voluntary body." Etzioni continued, "We are of the opinion that the elec-

tion method laid down by the AEC was sound and reasonable and constituted 'a method consistent with generally accepted democratic principles....' "

The justice also defended Equifax, saying its essential findings remain intact.

In the API appeal, the decision hinged on whether or not the court would accept the propriety of the organization's membership rolls at the time of the election. The court agreed with the AEC and Equifax, saying that API had turned contributions to the organization into "artificial memberships for election purposes," thereby violating election rules and the spirit of a recent call to Zionist organizations to add new members to their ranks.

The appeal of the Students for Israel was dismissed after the court determined that a nominating petition signed by 4,500 students did not justify an additional slate, since the students were not Zionist organization members as spelled out in election rules.

The court, however, did accept the ZOA and Bnai Zion appeals and, without further comment, directed that they not be penalized by the AEC.

In his concluding statement, Etzioni said that the court expressed "the hope that after the coming congress the whole procedure for determining membership of all types will be thoroughly examined...."

Etzioni also urged that eight outstanding mandates be divided between the RZA and API slates. He did not specify how they were to be divided.

The original assignment of mandates to the various Zionist slates was: Mercaz (Conservative), 20; Hadassah-Bnai Zion-American Jewish League for Israel, 48; Zionist Organization of America, 12; Students for Israel, 0; Association of Reform Zionists of America, 33; Herut, 9; Americans for a Progressive Israel, 1; Religious Zionists Association, 14; and Labor, 15.

The two other justices serving on the Zionist Supreme Court were Judge Asher Felix Landau and Judge Zvi Cohen. The panel delivered its ruling at the headquarters of the American Zionist Federation.

REPORT FINDS SHIN BET USED COERCION TO EXTRACT CONFESSIONS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- The Shin Bet, Israel's internal security agency has, since 1971, used psychological and "physical pressures" to obtain confessions from suspected terrorists and resorted to perjury to ensure convictions, according to the report of an investigating committee, made public, in part, on Friday.

The report is expected to trigger a flood of appeals to Israel's Supreme Court for new trials for terrorists and others convicted on the basis of confessions.

The report, nevertheless, recommends no criminal action against Shin Bet operatives who employed extra-legal methods and, in fact, sanctions such methods in some cases. The extent to which they may be permitted is specified in a section of the report submitted to Premier Yitzhak Shamir that remains secret.

The report was prepared by a government-appointed judicial commission headed by former Supreme Court President Moshe Landau, assisted by a former head of Mossad, the external secret service, whose identity is classified, State Comptroller Yaacov Maltz and Gen. Yitzhak Hofi,

former commander of the northern sector. The commission was set up as a result of two incidents that created turmoil in Israel and headlines around the world. One was the April 1984 killing of two Arab bus hijackers in the Gaza Strip after they were handed over to Shin Bet agents by the Israel Defense Force, which captured them alive.

The second was the case of former IDF Lt. Izat Nafsu, whom the Supreme Court earlier this year ordered released from prison after serving seven years of a life sentence for alleged spying and contact with terrorists. The high court found that Nafsu, a Circassian Moslem, was convicted on the basis of evidence fabricated by the Shin Bet.

Concern About Israel's Image

While Israeli officials have welcomed the report as a means to correct past failings, they have expressed concern that its publication could damage Israel's image abroad. Israeli officials had vigorously denied complaints of malpractice in the interrogation of suspects lodged by such highly respected groups as Amnesty International. The report now proves the complaints to have been well-founded, at least in part.

The commission absolved the country's political leadership, the judiciary and military authorities on grounds that they did not know of the Shin Bet's practices and could not be held responsible for them, even though Shin Bet reports directly to the prime minister, who has oversight over its operations.

It found that perjury was a matter of Shin Bet policy related to the inadmissibility of confessions since 1971, and was committed by Shin Bet officials to conceal their interrogation methods and ensure conviction. The report notes that in terrorist cases, confession is the main instrument to obtain conviction, but branded the perjury "ideological criminality."

The most serious instances of perjury involved the three men who headed Shin Bet since 1971, particularly the last two, Avraham Ahituv and Avraham Shalom. Shalom was forced to resign after the bus hijack affair, along with several other ranking Shin Bet officials. All received presidential pardons, although no formal charges were brought against them.

Euphemism For Torture

With respect to "physical pressure," believed to be a euphemism for torture, the commission noted in the published part of its report that normal police methods of interrogation and presentation to the courts of corroborative evidence could not always be applied to terrorism cases.

Such evidence was frequently impossible to find or present because it was obtained by undercover agents or by pressure exerted on witnesses. Therefore, psychological or physical pressure should be allowed within certain bounds, the report states. It proposes guidelines for the Shin Bet to follow in such cases. It also recommends that external supervision and control of Shin Bet by the Knesset, the prime minister, the Cabinet and the state comptroller be strengthened.

The commission rejected criminal action against Shin Bet operatives on grounds that they could plead justification in the fight against rampant terrorism and because prosecution would wreak havoc in the ranks of the Shin Bet.

It found that harsh interrogation methods and perjury were not employed to convict innocent persons. The report in fact repeatedly

praises the Shin Bet's efforts and success in fighting terrorism.

At the same time, it recommends that the attorney general and the military judicial authorities take steps to permit re-trials in response to all justified requests.

It also recommends that appropriate guidelines be issued to allow prisoners sentenced by military courts in the administered territories the right of appeal. At present there is no right of appeal against military court rulings.

UAHC PRESIDENT SAYS U.S. JEWS SHOULD TAKE PART IN PEACE DEBATE

CHICAGO, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- "The right and responsibility" of American Jews "to participate in Israel's peace debate" was strongly affirmed by Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, in his presidential address Saturday to 4,250 delegates attending the Reform congregational organization's national biennial convention at the Hyatt Regency Hotel here.

Schindler also urged Israel to "reject the status quo" in the West Bank and Gaza and "to relentlessly pursue all avenues to peace that will maintain the Jewish and democratic character of the state." He suggested in that connection that an international conference for Middle East peace would be "a lesser risk than stagnation" of the peace process.

Schindler also proposed that "a liberal version of Judaism" if introduced into the Soviet Union "could improve the prospects of Jewish survival" for those Jews who elect to remain in the USSR.

While asserting the right of Jews everywhere "to participate in the great moral debates of Israel," Schindler stressed that "in matters touching on state security, the final decision must rest with Israel, whose people live under the gun. But I also believe we owe Israel the truth as we see it. We do not serve her cause when we censor or sanitize or stifle our views," he said.

On the issue of achieving peace with Jordan, the Reform Jewish leader said, "I believe that the quest for an international umbrella as defined, as limited by agreements between Foreign Minister (Shimon) Peres and King Hussein, courts a lesser risk than stagnation."

Under that agreement, the Palestine Liberation Organization is excluded from the Jordanian delegation, and all prospective participants must first agree to recognize Israel. They would be barred from intervening in direct Jordan-Israel talks, or from imposing a settlement without the consent of all parties. "These terms cannot compel Israel to accept unsafe conditions," Schindler said.

He warned that "the prolongation of the status quo in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza exposes Israel to infinitely greater risk than does any international umbrella for direct negotiations."

"The status quo," he said, "again sows the seeds of endless conflict. It corrodes the Jewish and democratic character of the state" and "is a demographic time bomb ticking away at Israel's vital center," because "sooner or later there will be an Arab majority in Israel, turning the Jewish state into a binational state."

If Israel tries to avert this "by either repressing the Arabs or driving them out, the Jewish and democratic nature of the state will be

disfigured and the Zionist dream will be betrayed," Schindler warned.

With respect to Soviet Jewry, Schindler said that "more significant" than the recent rise in Jewish emigration "are the severe restraints on Jewish identity in the USSR, the sharp pressures of assimilation on the vast majority of Jews who will opt to remain in the Soviet Union, no matter how liberal the Kremlin's policy might become."

He added, "I profoundly believe that a liberal version of Judaism could improve the prospects for Jewish survival in the USSR, just as Reform has played a preservation role in North America and throughout the world."

Schindler called for a program to translate Reform Jewish school texts, prayer books and other materials into Russian and "establishing and providing services for Jews in the USSR while we continue to press for emigration and religious rights."

The UAHC convention, its 59th General Assembly, opened Friday and will end Tuesday. Representatives of almost all of the UAHC's 810 member synagogues in the United States and Canada who are attending will elect a new chairman of the board of trustees and set policy on matters relating to Israel, Middle East peace, the AIDS epidemic and the struggle against apartheid in South Africa.

In addition to Schindler's address, which was given in the form of a Sabbath sermon, speakers at the convention include former Soviet Jewish dissident Natan Sharansky; the ambassadors to Washington of Israel and Egypt; Thomas Dine, executive director of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC); former U.S. ambassador to Moscow Arthur Hartman; Dr. C. Everett Koop, the surgeon general of the United States; and Sheena Duncan, past president of Black Sash, the white women's anti-apartheid organization in South Africa.

The National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, the women's branch of Reform Judaism, is marking the beginning of its 75th year with its own biennial convention, parallel with the UAHC gathering. About 1,000 delegates are attending.

The convention will also mark the 25th anniversary of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism in Washington.

FORMER AMBASSADOR RECALLS DIFFICULT STINT IN VIENNA

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 1 (JTA) -- "Austria is not a country, as people believe, made up just of anti-Semites. There are also good people," Ronald Lauder believes.

But the man who just returned from an 18-month tour of duty as American ambassador to Austria also says "not enough people spoke out forcibly" about the Kurt Waldheim affair.

Lauder, 43, was honored here Thursday night with B'nai B'rith's first Jacob K. Javits Leadership Award for his comportment during one of the most trying times for an American and a Jew to hold that post.

The keynote address was given by Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, a native of Vienna, who said of Lauder's Vienna stint, "To be an ambassador under such circumstances must have been one of the most difficult things... and he came out with flying colors.... Not everybody can go through

such an advanced course in all the problems of our time as he has done."

Lauder received his award from Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal, who told the gathering at the Grand Hyatt Hotel that Lauder "separated the Waldheim affair from all other matters and concerns, and spoke to the government about the troubles of the Jewish community and the fight against anti-Semitism."

Wiesenthal, who said that Lauder looked him up just days after his arrival in the Austrian capital, spoke of Lauder's trips to Jewish communities in Eastern Europe and his particular devotion to the Dohany Synagogue in Budapest, which has been in great disrepair and is the object of an international campaign to raise funds for its renovation and revival.

Went To 'Every Synagogue'

During the year and a half that he spent in Vienna, Lauder made certain to be recognized as a Jew and to involve himself with the Jewish community. "I went to every synagogue there is in Vienna," he told the JTA.

He personally got interested in a school in Vienna for the children of Soviet Jewish immigrants, giving money to expand its program and include adults in religious, education and social activities. Lauder was drawn to the problem of assimilation of Soviet Jews living in Vienna, and spoke to teachers and rabbis there, Wiesenthal said.

Among them was the Vienna-based Lubavitcher rabbi, Jacob I. Biederman, who gave the invocation at the B'nai B'rith dinner.

Lauder has begun plans for a foundation to be based in Vienna for the education and preservation of the culture of Eastern and Central European minorities.

Wiesenthal said that Lauder also traveled to the cemetery where his grandfather is buried in Yugoslavia, and was "shocked" about the dilapidated state of the graveyard. Lauder asked the town's mayor for a promise to put the cemetery into a "respectable state again."

Lauder also visited Poland and has given money to the aged Jewish community of Krakow, Poland, for Jewish religious and cultural events there.

A tall man with a winsome smile, Lauder is friendly and easy to engage in conversation. He said before the dinner he believed that Waldheim is secure and that "if a new election were held tomorrow, he would be re-elected."

Lauder's grandparents had emigrated from within 150 miles of Vienna at the turn of the century, and he said he had come to Austria with a certain feeling of "coming home." He said he has returned here because "I felt I wanted to come back to the United States." However, when asked directly if the Waldheim affair colored his decision, Lauder told the JTA "yes."

Lauder is to be succeeded in this position by another prominent Jew, Henry Anatole Grunwald, former editor in chief of Time magazine, and an emigre from Vienna immediately preceding World War II.

Lauder described the current situation in Austria as "complicated." He admitted that although "many Austrians are anti-Semitic, many are not, many do not know the word bigotry. I have met some of the bravest, most courageous people in that country. I hope they can play a role in Austria's future."

**THOUSANDS TO DEMONSTRATE ON EVE
OF REAGAN-GORBACHEV SUMMIT**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- Ida Nudel and Vladimir and Maria Slepak, three long-time refuseniks who recently immigrated to Israel, will join thousands of American Jews and non-Jews in a demonstration for Soviet Jewry on the Mall here Dec. 6, the eve of the summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Plans for the "Washington Mobilization" were announced at a news conference here Monday by the Summit III Task Force, representing 50 national Jewish organizations and 300 local federations and councils, which has been planning the demonstration for nearly two years.

The mobilization is expected to be the largest Jewish demonstration ever held in Washington, according to Jacqueline Levine, chairperson of the Washington Mobilization and former chairperson of the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council. But she emphasized that the demonstration will also include thousands of non-Jews who support the struggle for Soviet Jewry.

"The mobilization will serve as a watch to guarantee and stimulate" both the United States and the Soviet Union to keep the issue of human rights high on the agenda during the talks between Reagan and Gorbachev, said Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, which organized the Task Force.

"The principle that we will be emphasizing time and again is that while no one is asking for any direct linkage of arms reduction and human rights or emigration, the credibility of the Soviet Union and the good faith and the return to the normal relationships, which we all hope for, will be measured and tested by whether the Soviet Union complies with its obligations under international law, international treaties and the Helsinki Accords," he added.

'Full Range Of Issues'

Abram said the joint U.S.-Soviet statement issued by the White House last Friday after Reagan announced Gorbachev accepted his invitation to a summit Dec. 7 was "historic." He explained that this was because the statement stressed that the summit would be "a substantive meeting which covers the full range of issues between the two countries" and would seek to make "significant headway over the full range of these issues."

Abram credited the "persistence" of Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz in making human rights an agenda item in meetings with the Soviets in changing Moscow's attitude that human rights is strictly an internal matter.

The demonstration, which will start at the Ellipse and conclude at the Lincoln Memorial, will be "dignified and orderly," Abram said.

"This is not a demonstration against," Levine said. "This is a demonstration for -- for a process of emigration which will be sustained, which will be substantive in terms of the numbers of people who will be able to leave and which

will be systematic so that Soviet Jews know what to expect when they apply for visas."

Noting that the demonstration will allow participants to "make our feelings known by making our presence known," Levine said that just as during the civil rights movement, the mass gathering will be one of the "very few times in life" when a single person by his or her presence can feel that he or she "made a difference."

UJA Moving Meeting

Martin Stein, national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, said the mobilization demonstrates the Jewish principle that "all Jews are responsible one for another."

He said that the UJA is moving its National Campaign Cabinet meeting from New York to Washington so that UJA leaders can participate in the demonstration.

Abram said the summit comes at a time when there has been "welcome" progress for Soviet Jews. He said more than 6,000 Jews have left the Soviet Union so far this year, all prisoners of conscience have been released and no teacher of Hebrew has been arrested for a year.

But he said there are still "thousands and thousands who would leave if the gates were open and there were no discrimination against those who applied." In addition, it has become "extremely difficult" for Jews to apply to leave, because emigration has been restricted to only those with immediate families abroad and because Soviet officials increasingly have used possession of state secrets as a reason to deny exit visas, Abram said.

Nobel Prize laureate Eli Wiesel is honorary chairman of the Summit III Task Force and the co-chairpersons are Shoshana Cardin, president of the Council of Jewish Federations, and Robert Loup, former UJA chairman. David Harris, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, is coordinator of the Washington Mobilization.

SOVIET JEWISH EMIGRATION SLIGHTLY UP

NEW YORK, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- A total of 912 Jews left the Soviet Union in October, of whom 246 proceeded to Israel, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported Monday.

Last month's emigration figures compare to 724 Jews who left the Soviet Union in September and 104 who left in October 1986. The total emigration for the year to date numbers 6,340.

"It's a modest increase and we hope it will continue to increase beyond the summit meeting, that it's not just a gesture, but that the numbers will continue to rise," said Myrna Shinbaum, associate director of the NCSJ.

Shinbaum was referring to the summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in Washington on Dec. 7.

The NCSJ figures did not correspond to the figures on Jewish emigration released Monday by the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration in Geneva. According to that group, 871 Jews left the Soviet Union in October, 205 of whom went to Israel, and Jewish emigration since the beginning of the year totalled 6,251.

to Israel, and Jewish emigration since the beginning of the year totalled 6,251.

An NCSJ spokesman explained that the Intergovernmental Committee for Migration apparently did not take into account Jews who left the USSR via Romania and went directly to Israel. He said that since last July, 83 Soviet Jews have gone to Israel via Romania, instead of through Vienna, 41 of them in October.

An additional six Jewish emigres may have used the Romania route before July, accounting for the discrepancy between the NCSJ's figures and those released in Geneva.

NEW SPLIT EMERGING BETWEEN ZIONISTS AND FUND-RAISERS IN JEWISH AGENCY

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- A profound crisis is rapidly developing here which could split the 74-member Jewish Agency Board of Governors between its Zionist members and the powerful Jewish diaspora fund-raisers.

The fund-raisers, in a surprise move last week, rejected Akiva Lewinsky, the Labor Party's candidate for the office of chairman of the World Zionist Organization and Jewish Agency Executive, to be elected at the World Zionist Congress which opens in Jerusalem Dec. 6.

According to Mendel Kaplan of South Africa, newly elected chairman of the Board of Governors, "it is a passing debate." But Lewinsky, stunned and bitter over the turn of events, believes it could destroy the longstanding partnership between the WZO and the overseas philanthropists.

"Unless one does not quickly find an equilibrium (between the Zionist movement and the fund-raisers), the most important tool that the Jews have may be in danger," Lewinsky told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a special interview Monday.

"No partnership can survive with a constant strain...I have realized that people who share the responsibility for running the Jewish Agency for so many years do not really know each other," he said. "Neither the American (Jewish) leadership, nor the other way around."

'Advice And Consent' At Issue

At the core of the issue is the principle of "advice and consent." According to the power-sharing rules between the Jewish Agency and the WZO, the outcome of the World Zionist Congress elections is subject to the "advice and consent" of the Agency Board of Governors. This has been in effect since the board was formed in 1970 to reconstitute the Jewish Agency.

Lewinsky maintained that the clash among the overseas federations, represented by the fund-raisers and the Zionist political establishment, which is democratically elected, stems from their different interpretations of "advice and consent." Apparently the words have different meanings in English and Hebrew, Lewinsky said.

The diaspora community understands it in the American context -- the president nominates someone and the Senate either approves or vetoes the candidate.

In Israel, however, advice and consent is a lengthy procedure wherein those who object to a candidate must come up with very serious reasons why they do, Lewinsky said.

He stressed that political parties have the right to choose their candidates. "They (the fund-

raisers) are actually telling the parties that they cannot elect their own people..."

Kaplan, who held a news conference here Monday prior to returning to South Africa for a month, cited the 1970 agreement, which says that "The election of the chairman of the WZO Executive will be done through prior mutual understanding with the Jewish Agency."

"It is with a sense of great sadness that I must state that the well-established procedures detailed above were not followed during the course of this year's nominations," Kaplan said.

He said the Labor Party had presented Lewinsky's candidacy as a *fait accompli*, ignoring the principle of advice and consent, and was thereby responsible for the crisis. In the past such things were done discretely, he said.

Why Lewinsky Not Suitable

He explained for the first time why Lewinsky was not considered suitable for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship. "We are looking toward the 21st century, and we believe that Akiva -- a man who has done tremendous work for the movement -- cannot be counted as a leader for the next five or ten years."

Although Kaplan offered no specifics, his implication was that the Jewish Agency cannot be left in the hands of those who have run it up to now because they are unlikely to introduce the necessary changes.

The matter is one of image as well as substance. The fund-raisers are concerned with the Jewish Agency's image among philanthropic donors. A new image requires new faces and unless the image is revitalized, they fear that contributions to the United Jewish Appeal, the dominant force behind the Jewish Agency's \$450 million budget, might decline.

Kaplan made clear that the fund-raisers are not about to change their minds with respect to Lewinsky or his partner on the Labor ticket, Avraham Avihai, who was running for Jewish Agency-WZO treasurer as the choice of the Confederation of United Zionists, of which Hadasah is the largest component.

But Lewinsky, who is also going abroad this week, told the JTA he would not give in and refused to join in speculation that the Labor Party might withdraw his nomination. He noted that the party's secretary, Uzi Baram, told a session of its central committee that Labor stood firmly behind Lewinsky.

He said he intends to take his nomination to the Zionist Congress, get elected and then "pass the ball" to the non-Zionists -- the fund-raisers.

If Lewinsky is elected and later vetoed, Labor may have to look to Likud, its partner in the unity coalition government, to form a common front against the overseas Jewish leaders. This could mean offering the post of treasurer to Likud, thereby breaking-Labor's pact with the Confederation of United Zionists and with other smaller Zionist factions promised important portfolios in the WZO executive in exchange for their support of Lewinsky.

Lewinsky conceded that this could pose a new problem. "There is nothing easier than reaching an agreement between Labor and Likud. But then we alienate all those Jews which the smaller partners represent."

He said a third of the World Zionist Congress delegates elected in the United States represent the smaller factions which have no equivalents in Israel's political system.

BALFOUR DAY MARKED BY UNREST IN ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- An upsurge of violence in the administered territories marked the 70th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration Monday.

Two Israelis were slightly injured and later hospitalized when the Egged bus they were riding was stoned near Hebron. Curfews were imposed on the Balata and Askar refugee camps near Nablus after violent demonstrations.

Israel Defense Force soldiers dispersed demonstrators near the Islamic University in Gaza. Two Molotov cocktails were thrown at Israeli vehicles in the Gaza Strip, but caused no injuries.

The police detained seven suspects for smearing anti-Israel graffiti on walls in East Jerusalem and burning tires.

Elsewhere in the territories, Palestinian youths burned tires on the roads and hurled rocks at Israeli vehicles.

Plans to call commercial strikes were thwarted by security forces in Ramallah and Nablus. The IDF forced merchants on Gaza's main street to open their shops.

Balfour Day commemorates the letter sent by British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour to Lord Rothschild on Nov. 2, 1917, pledging Britain's support for a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine.

But it is not the only date in November when trouble can be expected here. Gen. Amram Mitzna, commanding officer of the central sector, told reporters Monday that the IDF is ready for renewed unrest on Nov. 29, which will mark the 40th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly resolution calling for the partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab states.

HISTORIAN TESTIFIES FOR DEMJANJUK

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- Count Nicolae Tolstoi, a distant relative of the famous Russian novelist and philosopher Leo Tolstoi, testified for the defense Monday in the trial of suspected war criminal John Demjanjuk.

Tolstoi, a historian, backed the main defense argument of the Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk--that he had been a German prisoner of war during World War II and therefore could not have been the notorious Treblinka death camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

The prosecution has cited a 1948 application for help Demjanjuk submitted to the United Nations in which he nowhere mentioned that he was a POW. Demjanjuk says he feared he would be forcibly returned to the Soviet Union.

Tolstoi said he researched the issue of the forced return of Soviet refugees after the war and found Demjanjuk's explanation reasonable. He said that even as late as 1948, Soviet nationals were being returned to the Soviet Union against their will and the Western allies cooperated in that policy until 1950.

Demjanjuk testified that he belonged to a Red Army unit stationed in Heuberg in the spring of 1944. The prosecution produced expert testimony that the specific unit did not exist in that region at that time. Tolstoi testified however that it could have been there, as Demjanjuk claimed.

RABBI FEARS 'PROFESSIONALS' ARE BEHIND SYNAGOGUE VANDALISM

NEW YORK, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- Rabbi Philip Fleischer of Temple Beth Shalom in Mahopac, N.Y. "absolutely" discounts youthful vandalism for defacing his synagogue with swastikas and anti-Semitic threats this past weekend. Local police are not sure.

The graffiti applied Friday night or early Saturday was the third such incident of its kind in recent months at Beth Shalom, a 230-family Conservative congregation in Putnam County. The possibility of a Halloween prank is "out of the question," Fleischer told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency by telephone Sunday.

He said the swastikas and slogans in German such as "Heil Hitler" and "We Won't Die," were "too neat" and too carefully drawn to be the work of youngsters with spray paint. "Spray paint drips," the rabbi noted. The graffiti on his synagogue was a "professional" job, he said.

Detective Joseph Sobel of the Carmel, N.Y. police department who is in charge of the case, told the JTA Monday there were no clues so far. He said he had "an open mind" and while the rabbi is "entitled to his opinion" the vandals "could have been anyone." He attached no special importance to the fact that the graffiti was partly in German.

Sobel confirmed two earlier incidents. He said in one case letters on an outdoor bulletin board were scrambled to read "Heil Hitler." In the other, rocks from a garden on the synagogue grounds were rearranged in the form of a swastika.

DUTCH SUPREME COURT TO RULE IN 'WHO IS A JEW' CASE

By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- The issue of "Who is a Jew?" that has long bedeviled Israel was raised in the Supreme Court of the Netherlands last week in the case of a youngster refused admission to a Jewish religious school here because his mother is not Jewish according to halacha, religious law.

Jacob Groen, lawyer for 13-year-old Aram Brucker, drew a parallel between his situation and that of Shoshana Miller, an American woman who converted to Judaism but was denied Israeli citizenship because her conversion was performed by a Reform rabbi.

The Brucker case has passed through every level of the Dutch legal system since the Maimonides Lyceum in Amsterdam refused to enroll Aram and his father, who is Jewish, appealed to the courts.

The Amsterdam lower district court rejected the appeal. The higher district court overruled it and ordered the school to admit the boy. The school then appealed to the supreme court in the Hague.

Groen noted that Miller had appealed to Israel's Supreme Court, which subsequently ordered the Interior Ministry to register her as a Jew. The court order has yet to be carried out and Miller is presently in the United States. Groen argued that the Israeli high court recognized Miller as Jewish and the Dutch Supreme Court ought not to be "more orthodox" than its Israeli counterpart.

He quoted at length from a responsa by the 12th-century Jewish philosopher Maimonides that whoever converts to Judaism does so forever and is not, in the lawyer's words, a "second class Jew."

Johan De Wuijkerslooth, counsel for the Maimonides Lyceum, cited Article 48 of the law on post-elementary education, which allows denominational schools to refuse pupils for religious reasons, unless there is no non-denominational school in the vicinity. That condition does not apply in Brucker's case.

The Supreme Court is not expected to render a decision before January.

AJCOMMITTEE ADOPTS STAND SAYING MIDEAST STATUS QUO IS DANGEROUS

ATLANTA, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- The American Jewish Committee has issued a statement on the Arab-Israel peace process endorsing "the use by the United States of its good offices" to seek a consensus in Israel and among its Arab neighbors that will lead to direct negotiations, including the possibility of an international conference.

The statement, adopted at the AJCommittee's four-day National Executive Council meeting here, which ended Sunday, stressed the dangers of maintaining the status quo in the Middle East because of the possible radicalization of Palestinian youth and the demographic factors that threaten Israel's Jewish identity and could undermine its democratic ethos.

"We appreciate the consistent and steadfast position of the Reagan administration in assuring Israel that the United States will oppose any attempt by outside powers to impose a settlement and that only those Palestinians who renounce terrorism and express clearly a readiness for peaceful coexistence with a sovereign and secure state of Israel are suitable participants in any forthcoming peace talks," the statement said.

It pointed out that "a number of recent developments suggest that it is important to explore and exploit the potential for progress in building upon the framework for peace contained in the Camp David Accords."

In that connection, the statement cited the Iran-Iraq war, the fear of the spread of Islamic radicalism from Iran, the deep economic and social problems in the region and growing acceptance of the 1979 Israel-Egypt peace treaty as factors which have "served to diminish the support available for radical Palestinian attacks upon Israel."

Hussein's Readiness

It noted that "King Hussein of Jordan has displayed a new readiness to meet openly with Israel for negotiations within an international framework."

The AJCommittee statement challenged "those who believe that the current status quo is acceptable and does not require efforts for change." It pointed to the rising incidence of violent clashes in the administered territories and the possibility that Palestinian youth "will increasingly join fundamentalist and other radical elements."

That danger was underlined by Ambassador Robert Oakley, special assistant to the president for national security affairs, who was in Atlanta Sunday to participate in a discussion on "Critical Choices in the Middle East" at a session of the council meeting. He told the assembled AJCommit-

tee members that pictures of the Ayatollah Khomeini are cropping up in Palestinian refugee camps.

The widespread growth of religious fundamentalism with its ties to radical movements is just one of a number of worrisome trends that could undermine the forces favoring peace and reconciliation, Oakley said.

His Israeli counterpart, Dr. Nimrod Novik, national security and foreign policy adviser to Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, told the gathering that the export of Islamic fundamentalism to countries such as Bahrain and Lebanon have a pronounced effect "on Iran, Egypt, Jordan as well as Gaza and the West Bank."

He added, "Israel does not want to be an island in a sea of fanaticism."

'Seize The Moment'

Oakley and Novik agreed that solutions to these problems must be acted upon immediately. "Either we seize the moment, or we let it slip away," Novik said. Oakley warned that inactivity by the United States, Israel and the Arab countries now "could come back to haunt us one day."

The four-day meeting featured an appearance by former President Jimmy Carter and sessions on such topics as U.S.-Israeli relations, Soviet Jewry, black-Jewish relations, the social responsibility of the media and the impact of feminism on Jewish life.

The delegates heard reports from the AJCommittee's Family Policy Task Force and its Task Force on Religion and Society, chaired by Jerome Shestack, an AJCommittee national vice president.

The family policy task force, which has been studying issues and problems for 18 months, noted that the rapid increase in recent years of working mothers, single-parent households, teen-age pregnancies and geographic mobility have led to what it calls an obligation on the part of all segments of society "to address the challenges posed by changing social conditions for the well-being of the nation's children, families, and the communities in which they live."

Shestack's panel explored such topics as religious pluralism in America; the historical involvement of religion in shaping the public agenda; the moral agenda of such groups as the Catholic Church and politically conservative Evangelicals; the role of the media in shaping moral values; and the presence of religion in political campaigns and in the nation's classrooms.

(Andrew Adler of the Atlanta Jewish Times contributed to this story.)

DUTCH MUST COMPENSATE WOMEN SURVIVORS

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 2 (JTA) -- The minister of social welfare is under court order to revise his decision denying government payments to women victims of the Nazis who are not their family breadwinners.

The case arose from the appeal of a Jewish woman whose payments were stopped when she married. She charged sex discrimination, noting that men married to wealthy women continue to receive their payments.

They are made under the so-called WUV law of 1973, which provides compensation for Dutch victims of Nazism or of the Japanese occupation of colonial territories in World War II, whose earning capacity was impaired.

**FRIENDS OF ISRAEL UNLIKELY TO MISS OUTGOING DEFENSE SECRETARY**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- The expected resignation of Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger would remove from President Reagan's Cabinet the leading opponent of the expanding alliance between the United States and Israel over the last seven years.

While maintaining that he is not anti-Israel, Weinberger has continually argued that the United States must not be seen as neglecting its Arab friends in the Middle East, particularly Saudi Arabia and Jordan, in favor of Israel.

The 70-year-old defense secretary has been the leading advocate in the Reagan administration for arms sales to Saudi Arabia and Jordan, and is believed responsible for some of the harsh actions the administration has taken against Israel during the last seven years.

After Jonathan Pollard, a civilian intelligence analyst for the U.S. Navy, was arrested for spying for Israel, Weinberger refused to go along with a State Department effort to ensure that the affair would not harm long-term U.S.-Israel relations.

Weinberger also opposed the administration's efforts for strategic cooperation with Israel and sought to prevent Israel from building the Lavi jet fighter from its inception.

Controversies in Beirut

Some of his most controversial acts came when the U.S. Marines were sent to Beirut in 1983. Weinberger first refused any direct liaison between the Marines and Israeli troops adjacent to them, which resulted in at least one confrontation between the two sides.

When the Marine barracks were blown up on Oct. 23, 1983, the Pentagon rejected an offer by Israel to have the wounded flown to an Israeli hospital. Weinberger maintained that this was a decision by the commander at the scene, based on established practices. Later, the United States and Israel entered into an agreement to provide such medical treatment.

Weinberger directly confronted the perception that he is anti-Israel in a speech to the American Jewish Committee in New York on May 13, 1983 in which he stressed that "this is simply not true."

"I am a strong supporter of Israel, and an admiring witness to the democracy they have built and preserved under the most trying conditions," he said.

A 'Supporter,' If Not 'Admirer'

But, he added, even if he was not an "admirer" of Israel, "as secretary of defense, I would still be a strong supporter of Israel," because, in addition to the emotional ties between the two countries, "it is clear that we in the United States have an important stake in Israel's security."

Weinberger is expected to be succeeded as secretary of defense by Frank Carlucci, now Reagan's national security adviser. Carlucci is considered close to Weinberger, having served under him in the Nixon administration and then

as deputy secretary of defense from 1981 to 1983.

Carlucci is believed to have proposed the sale of AWACS planes to Saudi Arabia in 1981 and had pushed for arm sales to the Saudis when he was deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency in the Carter administration.

However, it is Carlucci who is credited with the compromise worked out with Senate leaders to remove Maverick anti-tank missiles from a \$1 billion arms sale to Saudi Arabia.

Carlucci is expected to be replaced by his deputy, Army Lt. Colin Powell. He would be the first black to be national security adviser.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES:**IS FUND-RAISERS' MOVE AGAINST LEWINSKY CONSTRUCTIVE OR ANTI-DEMOCRATIC?**

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- The controversy surrounding the upcoming World Zionist Organization elections has brought to the surface tensions that have long existed between Jewish diaspora fund-raisers and the WZO's Zionist members.

According to interviews conducted with representatives of fund-raising organizations, a Jewish Agency panel's decision last week to reject Akiva Lewinsky, the Labor Party's candidate for the WZO-Jewish Agency chairmanship, represents a show of strength by diaspora Jews who have been calling for new faces and ideas from the WZO leadership.

But according to Zionist representatives, the fund-raisers acted improperly in rejecting Lewinsky, subverting democratic principles in the process.

By opposing Lewinsky's candidacy, a high-level body of diaspora Jewish Agency fund-raisers known as "the Committee of 12" brought down a fragile arrangement between a confederation of American Zionist constituents and the Labor Party.

Support of Lewinsky by the confederation--whose members include Hadassah, the Reform Zionists of America and Mercaz, the Conservative Zionist organization -- would have been matched by Labor support for Avraham Avihai and other confederation candidates for top positions. Avihai, who is currently chairman of Keren Hayesod, one of the fund-raising arms of the WZO and Jewish Agency, would get the post of WZO treasurer, now held by Lewinsky.

The arrangement would have effectively frozen out members of Israel's Likud bloc from top Jewish Agency posts, a reason given by fund-raising officials for their opposition to Lewinsky.

Need For A 'Brand New Face'

Yet the strongest rationale for opposing Lewinsky, according to a top fund-raising official, was to "get somebody young, energetic, with a brand new face -- someone who would help with the process of changing around the agency. We felt Lewinsky would be perceived as being the same old stuff again."

And according to Neal Potash, assistant executive vice chairman of the United Israel Appeal, "Some U.S. leadership felt that Lewinsky was not seen as enough of a change from (Aryeh)

Dulzin (the outgoing WZO-Jewish Agency chairman), and they felt that they wanted to see more of a difference in the leadership."

"I think it is a healthy, constructive step, not an attack on two men," said Rabbi Brian Lurie, executive director of the Jewish Community Federation of San Francisco. "Avraham Avihai is a friend and a wonderful guy. Akiva Lewinsky is a fine man. But can either provide dynamic, forceful leadership?"

But representatives of the Zionist political establishment feel the fund-raisers may have overstepped their bounds in rejecting the Labor candidate.

Simmy Ziv-el, North American representative of the United Kibbutz Movement and executive director of Friends of Labor, said the meeting in Jerusalem that resulted in Lewinsky's rejection was improper. He bases his claim on WZO rules that outline the limits of "advice and consent," a process of candidate review that he said has been abused by the Committee of 12.

No Respect For Democratic Process

"The committee's move doesn't respect the fact that the Zionist movement is in the middle of a democratization process," said Ziv-el.

"While we, the Zionist movement, respect the right of fund-raisers to review the election of chairmen of the movement," he added, "we expect the fund-raisers to respect the Zionist movement's rights to a democratic process."

Yehiel Leket, chairman of the World Labor Zionist Movement, concurred. "Never before has the nomination process taken place without asking the candidate to appear," said Leket, who is in the United States to attend this week's retreat for American delegates to the 31st Zionist Congress in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. "I think there was a deliberate campaign against Lewinsky."

Leket said that Labor still gives its full backing to Lewinsky, whom he describes as "clever" and "a doer" who has distinguished himself as WZO treasurer.

"The fund-raisers feel he lacks charisma, that he talks too much at meetings," said Leket. "But he introduced a plan of change. There's a lack of leadership from both sides, and policies have been frozen for the past eight years. His plan was never even discussed."

Alternative Labor Candidates

Despite Labor's continued support of Lewinsky, Israeli dailies report that other names have been mentioned in Labor circles as alternative candidates. They include Gad Yaacobi, the minister of economic coordination in the Labor-Likud coalition Cabinet, and Knesset member Mordechai Gur. Both are well known to Israelis and diaspora Jewish leaders.

"I think this is going to be the first dance in the minuet," Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, executive vice president of the (Conservative) Rabbinical Assembly, said of the situation. "I think there are going to be many realignments and much re-coalitioning. The real thing to watch is how the confederation, Likud, and Labor slug it out."

Conservative and Reform organizations will watch that battle with intense interest. Ironically, by opposing the package deal that included Lewinsky, the Jewish Agency leadership threatens to lessen the gains made by the Conservative and Reform movements in terms of WZO representation. With Labor, they control 320 of the 535 delegates to the Zionist Congress.

Kelman said he was sure that promises made to the Conservative and Reform organizations concerning top agency posts remain firm. "They must be given a spot, major spots," he said. "No one denies that Reform deserves a major post and Conservative a smaller one. . . . The fight is over the treasuryship."

Fund-raisers maintain that whoever emerges as the strongest candidates for the chairman's and treasurer's posts will be a force for change.

"Who will be the next candidate? Somebody good," said Lurie of San Francisco. "I'd like to see a leader who believes and understands strengthening the diaspora relationship. Somebody who wants to work with partners."

VAD HAPOEL TO SET FINAL DISTRIBUTION OF ZIONIST CONGRESS DELEGATES

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Unless the Zionist general counsel chooses to act upon a suggestion made last week by the president judge of the Zionist Supreme Court, the results of this spring's World Zionist Congress elections will stand when the congress meets in Jerusalem in December.

The elections determine the number of delegates each of several competing Zionist slates will be allowed to send to the December congress. This year, five of those slates went before the Supreme Court of the World Zionist Organization to appeal the procedures used by the Area Election Committee of the American Zionist Federation to distribute the congress mandates.

In a ruling issued last Friday, Justice Moshe Etzioni rejected appeals brought by three of the Zionist organizations, who claimed they were entitled to larger shares of representation at the Zionist congress.

But in an apparent good-faith move, Etzioni also suggested that eight unassigned mandates, usually held in reserve by the WZO, be distributed between two of the appealing organizations, the Religious Zionists of America and Americans for a Progressive Israel. The third group, the Students for Israel, was reportedly not included because of flagrant election irregularities.

According to Karen Rubinstein, director of the AZF, it would take a constitutional amendment by the Vad Hapoel, or Zionist General Counsel, to make those eight mandates available to Zionist organizations in the United States. Traditionally, so-called "floating" mandates have been distributed only to Zionist organizations outside of the United States.

In a telephone-interview Wednesday, Etzioni called his suggestion "a more peaceful way to settle differences." Etzioni called the ultimate decision of whether or not to make the additional mandates available "a question of politics now, not law."

Etzioni also clarified the court's decision to accept the appeals of two other organizations, the Zionist Organization of America and Bnai Zion, who claimed that they had been short-changed by an AEC review process that was used to verify voter registration.

AEC officials agreed that mistakes were made in determining voter eligibility of the two groups, said Etzioni. But his decision to accept their appeals will have no effect on the number of ZOA and Bnai Zion delegates, because any subsequent adjustment could only be measured in fractions.

**CONGRESS EXPECTED TO ALLOW
REVISED SAUDI ARMS SALE**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- The Reagan administration's proposed sale of \$1 billion in arms to Saudi Arabia, which was submitted to Congress last week, is expected to go through with little or no opposition.

This was assured when the White House agreed on Oct. 5 to eliminate Maverick anti-tank missiles from the arms package during discussions with leading Senate opponents of the sale.

Supporters of Israel, both in Congress and in the organized Jewish community, had seen the Mavericks as posing a potential threat to Israel. Before the compromise was reached, there were enough votes in the Senate and House both to reject the sale and to override a presidential veto of the rejection.

Once the Mavericks were removed, there was little inclination to fight the arms sale, particularly in view of current United States military maneuvers in the Persian Gulf.

The proposed sale to the Saudis now includes 12 F-15 jet fighters, conversion kits to improve the performance and ease the maintenance of the F-15s the Saudis already have and conversion kits to upgrade 150 M-60AI tanks.

The administration has promised that the F-15s will be sent to the Saudis only as replacements for any of the 60 F-15s they now have that are no longer usable.

The sale goes through automatically if Congress does not pass a resolution rejecting the sale within 50 days of being notified by the administration.

**KEY DEMJANJUK DEFENSE WITNESS
NEARLY BOLTS DURING TESTIMONY**

By David Landau and Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- A key witness for the defense of suspected war criminal John Demjanjuk threatened to walk out of the court Wednesday because he said he was insulted by the cross-examination of state attorney Yona Blatman.

But Count Nicolae Tolstoi, a Russian-born British historian, changed his mind after presiding Judge Dov Levin warned that if Tolstoi withdrew, his testimony of the past two days would be expunged from the record, thus dealing a major setback to the defense.

Tolstoi, a distant relative of the famous Russian novelist Leo Tolstoi, insists that a vital prosecution document which could convict Demjanjuk may well be a KGB forgery. He also maintains that Demjanjuk's alibi "is fully consistent with historical events as they are known to me."

The document in question is an SS identity card, obtained by the prosecution from Soviet sources, which bears a photograph of Demjanjuk at about age 22 and proves that the bearer was a Soviet army defector trained by the SS for voluntary guard duty at the Treblinka death camp.

Demjanjuk, 66, a Ukrainian-born retired automobile worker from Cleveland, Ohio, claims he was recruited into the Red Army and captured by the Germans following the battle of Kerch in the spring of 1942. He says he remained a prisoner of war until he joined the Vlassov Brigade, a unit of the German army consisting of Ukrainians and other anti-Soviet elements.

Therefore, according to Demjanjuk, he could not have been at Treblinka from the summers of

1942 to 1943 and was not the brutal guard known as "Ivan the Terrible," who operated the gas chambers.

The defense contends that Demjanjuk did not mention his status as a POW when he applied to the United Nations for help in 1948 out of fear that he might have been forcibly returned to the Soviet Union.

Tolstoi, who specializes in Soviet involvement in World War II, testified that Demjanjuk's explanation coincided with the facts. Refugees were returned to the Soviet Union against their will until 1950, Tolstoi said.

The historian said that from personal experience he knew that the KGB could easily have forged the ID card to incriminate Demjanjuk because of his Ukrainian nationalist activities. No one can categorically state whether the document is authentic or not, Tolstoi declared.

He objected vehemently to Blatman's suggestion that his admitted anti-Soviet bias could have influenced his testimony. He also took offense at Blatman's questioning of his professional credentials. The prosecutor cited unfavorable reviews of some of his books.

Tolstoi said he was "shocked" by the prosecutor's "insulting manner" and could no longer "participate in these proceedings." Blatman later apologized to the witness, saying he had not intended to imply he was not an expert in certain areas.

**INDUSTRIALISTS SEEK DEVALUATION
OF SHEKEL AGAINST DOLLAR**

JERUSALEM, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Industrial circles here are pressing for a moderate devaluation of the shekel out of fear that the sudden decline of the American dollar in recent weeks will weaken the competitiveness of Israeli products on the American market.

They seek a devaluation of about 5-7 percent. On Wednesday the shekel stood at 1.564 to the dollar.

According to knowledgeable sources, both Finance Minister Moshe Nissim and Michael Bruno, governor of the Bank of Israel, want to avoid devaluation. Nissim said on an army radio interview Wednesday that he does not intend another devaluation. But, the interviewers noted, finance ministers are wont to disguise their intentions, and Nissim did not demur.

The shekel was devalued by 10 percent last January. It has since bounced back by 4 percent against the dollar, but has fallen significantly against the yen and the major European currencies.

OBSCURE SONG MEANS SCHOLARSHIP

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- The army radio's version of the American game show "Name That Tune" produced no winners after 40 days, so Otzhar Lehayal, the Soldiers Bank which sponsored it, has decided to donate the mounting \$3,000 prize to a scholarship fund for demobilized soldiers.

True, only the opening bar was played each day, lasting about a second. But the thousands of contestants unable to identify the music seem to have cause to cry foul. The tune chosen could not have been more obscure.

It was the theme music written by the Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis for the Michael Kacoyannis film "The Day The Fish Came Out."

**ILLINOIS FIRM ALLEGED TO BE
DISTRIBUTING NON-KOSHER POULTRY**

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- The Illinois attorney general filed suit Wednesday against a Chicago poultry processing and distributing company for marketing poultry falsely labeled as kosher.

Named in the suit were Sheldon Terman and Michael Terman, respectively president and secretary of Shelat Kosher Foods Inc., United Poultry Inc. and Espan Food Inc. Their products are distributed nationally under the "Shelat Kosher Foods" label.

According to Dave Curry, administrative assistant to Attorney General Neil Hartigan, the attorney general's office is working closely with representatives of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations (O.U.) and the Chicago Rabbinical Council.

As a result of the suit, a Cook County circuit court order has been entered prohibiting Shelat from processing and distributing kosher food while representatives of the attorney general and the O.U. examine company records and stock. The attorney general is seeking a \$50,000 civil penalty and restitution to consumers under the Illinois Consumer Protection and Deceptive Business Practices Act.

Sheldon and Michael Terman could not be reached for comment.

On Tuesday, the O.U., which supervises the processing and packaging of kosher products, terminated Shelat's certification after laboratory tests confirmed a report from a Shelat employee that kosher "shields" were being applied to poultry in a facility other than the one supervised by the O.U.

According to Rabbi Menachem Genack, rabbinical coordinator for the O.U. Kosher Division in New York, the O.U. has contacted all distributors of Shelat Poultry and notified rabbis across the United States that the company's certification has been terminated.

Genack said that a position paper would be available this week determining whether consumers of Shelat poultry would need to re-kasher their kitchens.

The attorney general's office is directing inquiries to O.U.'s New York office at (212) 564-0330.

**ISRAEL'S 1ST BOTULISM IN YEARS
TRACED TO U.S. WHITEFISH**

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- The first cases of botulism in Israel in 16 years apparently were caused by contaminated whitefish from the United States, Health Ministry sources said Wednesday.

They reported it was traced to a kilo (2.2 lbs.) of the fish recently brought from Brooklyn, N.Y., by the relative of a 40-year-old woman admitted to Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem last week suffering from breathing difficulties and double vision. Investigators went to her home, where they found the fish. Tests proved it to be tainted.

Several days earlier, a 60-year-old woman, a member of the same family, died at Shaare Zedek Hospital. She, too, is believed to have eaten the contaminated fish.

U.S. health authorities have been notified, although the Israeli Health Ministry could not provide the brand name of the fish.

**ISRAELI CABINET EXPECTED
TO ADOPT REPORT ON SHIN BET**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Israel's Cabinet is expected this Sunday to adopt the recommendations of a special commission of inquiry into the conduct of the Shin Bet and appoint a ministerial committee to oversee the activities of the internal security agency.

The report, submitted to Premier Yitzhak Shamir last Friday and made public in part, found that Shin Bet systematically used physical coercion to extract confessions from suspected terrorists and resorted to perjury to obtain convictions.

The revelations by the blue-ribbon panel, headed by former Supreme Court President Moshe Landau, has stirred debate in the legal community. It has also revived demands for full pardons for members of an underground Jewish terrorist network convicted three years ago of crimes of violence against Arabs in the West Bank.

The findings of the Landau Commission are not in themselves disputed. But they pose a dilemma, as noted by Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres in his initial reaction to the report Tuesday.

He said the security services face a very difficult task fighting on behalf of a state based on law against terrorist organizations which abide by no law.

Meanwhile, according to a Haaretz report, the central committee of the Israel Bar Association decided Tuesday to appoint a committee to recommend how the bar should handle inadmissible testimony in light of the Landau report.

The committee, which has been given 10 days to complete its work, will also recommend measures to be taken against Shin Bet legal advisers and attorneys who have given false testimony in the courts.

Senior judicial figures expressed hope that implementation of the Landau Commission's recommendations will usher in a new era of cooperation between the state attorney's office and the Shin Bet, which have had strained relations for years.

**CANADA TO SEEK EVIDENCE ABROAD
AGAINST SUSPECTED WAR CRIMINALS**

By Michael Solomon

MONTREAL, Nov. 4 (JTA) -- Canada has begun negotiations with the Soviet Union and the governments of Poland, Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, West Germany and Israel to allow Canadian legal teams to search for evidence in the cases of 20 definite war crimes suspects and 200 probable suspects residing in Canada.

Justice Minister Ray Hnatyshyn announced the development Tuesday night in an address to an international human rights conference that opened at McGill University Law School here Tuesday.

Participating in the conference, whose theme is "Nuremberg 40 Years Later: The Struggle Against Injustice in Our Time," are prominent jurists, government ministers, legislators and human rights activists from Canada, the United States and other countries. Its purpose is to impress on the world the need to implement international legislation on war crimes and to safeguard freedom of expression and the defense of human rights.

**HERZOG MARKS WHITE HOUSE APPEARANCE WITH A BLESSING**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- Chaim Herzog marked the first state visit by a president of Israel to the United States by reciting the traditional Jewish prayer of "shehecheyanu" at a White House ceremony preceding his hour-long meeting with President Reagan Tuesday.

"At this moment as I stand here as the president of a country born of the prayers of a nation over the centuries and a 2,000-year-old struggle against adversity, and view this event in true perspective against the background of our long history, I cannot but give expression to the age-old Jewish prayer," he said.

Herzog then recited in Hebrew and English, "thanks to the Almighty for having kept us alive and maintained us to reach this time."

The ceremony was held in the East Room of the White House because the heavy rain here precluded the traditional South Lawn welcome for foreign heads of state.

Reagan also noted the "historic" occasion, pointing out that Israel was observing its 40th anniversary and reminding the audience that the United States was the first country to extend it diplomatic recognition.

Both presidents pointed out that this occasion coincided with the anniversary of Kristallnacht, on Nov. 9 and 10, 1938, when Jewish synagogues, schools, homes and stores were attacked by the Nazis in Germany. Reagan also spoke of the "obscene" resolution equating Zionism with racism adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on Nov. 10, 1975.

Reagan observed that in 1938, there was no Israel to protect Jewish interests, but in 1975, Israel and the Jewish people were defended at the United Nations by Herzog, then its ambassador there, as well as by the United States ambassador, who at the time was Daniel Patrick Moynihan, now a Democratic U.S. senator representing New York.

Later, in an address to a joint session of both houses of Congress, Herzog thanked the American legislators for adopting a resolution urging the United States to support efforts to get the United Nations to rescind the "Zionism is racism" resolution. A similar resolution was adopted in Australia before his state visit there.

Tumultuous Applause In Congress

Both when Herzog entered the House of Representatives chamber and when he finished his address, he was greeted with tumultuous applause from an audience made up of senators and representatives or members of their staff, many foreign ambassadors and several members of the Cabinet, including Secretary of State George Shultz and Army Lt. Gen. Colin Powell, Reagan's newly named national security adviser.

House Speaker Jim Wright (D-Texas) and Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wis.), who presided over the joint session, both mispronounced Herzog's first name as "Sàame" in their introductions.

At the White House, the two presidents stressed the common democratic values shared by

Israel and the United States and their commitment to achieving peace in the Middle East.

"We share the conviction that Israel can be secure and realize its full promise and genius only when security and lasting peace can be achieved," Reagan stressed.

Reagan added that the effort for peace must also "find a just solution for the Palestinian people."

Israel Seeks Peace

Herzog praised Reagan's efforts to help achieve peace in the Middle East which he stressed Israel has sought "since we held out our hand to our Arab neighbors in our Declaration of Independence."

He told Reagan that "Israel is prepared, as you are well aware Mr. President, to move forward, with your involvement, to a further phase of this process."

Reagan stressed that Israel and the United States are committed to human rights for all. "This is why America has championed the cause of Soviet Jews in their struggle for religious freedom, and right, if they wish, to emigrate," the president said.

Noting that Americans rejoiced at the "release" of Natan Sharansky, Ida Nudel and Vladimir Slepak, Reagan said "many others, less well-known" also have the right to emigrate.

The president added, "I pledge to you that we will persevere in our efforts to persuade the Soviet Union to meet its international obligations under the Helsinki accords, not just to Soviet Jews, but to all the citizens of the Soviet Union."

PASSENGERS SEIZED BY ABU NIDAL DO NOT APPEAR TO BE ISRAELI

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- There now appears to be little substance to claims made last weekend by the Abu Nidal terrorist group that it had seized an "Israeli yacht" off the coast of the Gaza Strip and captured eight "Israeli passengers holding dual nationality."

Belgian authorities have confirmed that five of the passengers are Belgian citizens residing in France who are Catholic, not Jewish. They were identified as Emmanuel Houtekins, 42; his wife, Godelieve Kets; their children, Laurent, 17, and Valerie, 16; and Emmanuel's brother, Fernand, 40.

The French government is reportedly trying to obtain information as to the fate of Fernand's girlfriend, Jacqueline Valente, 29, and her two children, Marie-Laure, 6, and Virginie, 4. Valentie's mother, Brigitte, has denied in France that her daughter is Jewish.

Meanwhile, Israeli naval sources say the yacht may have been seized many miles -- possibly 100 or more -- from the Israeli coast, perhaps as far away as Libya.

The International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva has announced that it has heard nothing about the incident and has received no word from the terrorist group, despite a promise the group made Sunday at a news conference in Beirut.

**ARAB SUMMIT KEEPS LOW PROFILE
ON ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- The dangers posed by Iran and uneasiness over the growing Western naval presence in the Persian Gulf appear to have overshadowed the Arab-Israeli conflict at the three-day summit conference of Arab leaders in Amman, which ended Wednesday.

The Arab-Israeli issue was mentioned only at the end of the conference's final statement. It was a word-for-word repetition of previous statements and resolutions that emerged from past Arab summit meetings -- that the Palestinian question was at the heart of the Middle East conflict and peace was impossible without Israel's complete withdrawal from all territories it captured in the 1967 war, including East Jerusalem.

The statement was unaccompanied by the usual impassioned rhetoric. According to observers, in fact, the latest Arab summit seems to have shifted the balance of power in the Arab world from the die-hards to the pragmatists. Reconciliation within the Arab camp also seems to have carried the day.

Palestine Liberation Organization chief Yasir Arafat was quoted by Haaretz's Arab affairs correspondent as saying in Amman Tuesday that he had reached an agreement with King Hussein of Jordan to resume the Jordanian-PLO dialogue. It was broken off by Hussein in January 1986 after a year of fruitless search for a formula for joint Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations with Israel.

Hussein charged at the time that the PLO leadership had proven unreliable. According to the Haaretz report Wednesday, agreement to resume their efforts was reached at a reconciliation luncheon given by Hussein after Arafat boycotted an earlier dinner Hussein held for the summit participants.

There was no immediate confirmation from Hussein.

Haaretz also reported that Richard Murphy, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, informed Moshe Katzav, currently visiting Washington, that Hussein is ready for territorial compromise with Israel and would not insist on the return of the entire West Bank. Katzav, a member of the Herut wing of the Likud bloc, is minister of labor and social affairs.

The Haaretz Washington correspondent reported Wednesday that the Reagan administration will soon transfer \$42 million to Jordan for projects and social programs in the territories administered by Israel.

Katzav reportedly told the correspondent that he was assured by Murphy that aid to residents of the territories would not be decreased despite anticipated cuts in the U.S. federal budget.

**THREE SHIN BET AGENTS SUSPENDED
FOR COVERING UP ARAB SUSPECT'S DEATH**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- The head of the Shin Bet has suspended three of the security service's investigators for lying to a government panel about the death of a young Arab suspect during the suspect's interrogation last summer, Yediot Achronot reported Wednesday.

According to the report, the Shin Bet chief -- whose identity is never revealed publicly -- learned of the case 10 days ago and acted immediately. He reported the matter to Premier Yitzhak Shamir, Attorney General Yosef Harish and former Supreme Court President Moshe Landau, who headed a government-appointed commission that recently completed an investigation into the conduct of the Shin Bet.

In a report submitted to Shamir Oct. 28, the Landau Commission found that Shin Bet operatives systematically resorted to physical coercion to obtain confessions during the past 16 years and committed perjury before courts and military tribunals in order to conceal their methods and ensure convictions. The report, only parts of which were made public, recommended, however, that no one be prosecuted.

Ministerial Panel Named

On Sunday, Israel's Cabinet endorsed the commission report and, acceding to one of its key recommendations, appointed an ad-hoc committee of four ministers to oversee the operations of the internal security service. Its members are Shamir, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Justice Minister Avraham Sharir.

The commission's recommendations were also used as guidelines in the handling of the case involving the Arab suspect's death. After learning of the case, Attorney General Harish held consultations at his office Tuesday and announced during an Israel Defense Force radio interview Wednesday evening that he would personally head an investigation into the Arab's death.

The case in question began last July 19, when Awad Hamdan, 19, who had just returned to Ramon village in the West Bank after a long stay in Jordan, was arrested on suspicion of membership in a hostile organization. Two days after his arrest, he collapsed and died during interrogation. A forensic examination found he died of a heart attack.

His family claimed his body showed signs of violence that indicated he might have been tortured to death. The Shin Bet conducted an internal investigation at the time. It emerged only 10 days ago that the operatives who questioned the suspect gave a false version of his death at that investigation.

The same, false version was submitted to the Landau Commission in the course of its probe of the Shin Bet's behavior and therefore constituted false testimony. A new post mortem examination revealed that the suspect died of pneumonia that could have been brought on by the kind of treatment he received at the hands of his interrogators.

Meanwhile, Hamdan's family has petitioned Israel's Supreme Court to order a police investigation into the cause of death. The court is expected to respond next week.

In a related development, Haaretz reported Wednesday that an Israel Bar Association committee is considering lodging a complaint with the association's ethics committee and disciplinary court against Shin Bet attorneys involved in alleged doctoring of evidence.

The committee will meet with Harish to learn of the extent of the irregularities spelled out in the Landau Commission's report. Harish is expected to propose that no disciplinary action be taken, in compliance with the commission's recommendations.

AS HUNDREDS PROTEST IN SYRACUSE, FARRAKHAN DENIES HE'S ANTI-SEMITIC

By Judith Rubenstein

SYRACUSE, N.Y., Nov. 11 (JTA) -- With 500 protestors clamoring outside, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan denied he was anti-Semitic and preached his message of black racial pride and economic self-determination here Nov. 9.

The protestors -- singing, chanting and waving signs -- congregated opposite the Syracuse University Schine Student Center, where Farrakhan spoke to more than 1,700 people. The protestors argued volubly with supporters of Farrakhan, but no violence broke out.

Police quickly quelled two minor skirmishes and declined to make arrests. When Jewish Defense Organization (JDO) leader Mordechai Levy gained access to the center's lobby, he was promptly escorted out by in-house security.

Earlier in the day, the Syracuse Area Inter-religious Council (SAIC) held a demonstration on the steps of the university chapel. SAIC members, university chaplains, local rabbis and professional and volunteer leaders of the Syracuse Jewish Federation gathered to affirm brotherhood. But area black religious leaders were noticeably absent.

The campus newspaper criticized the Student Afro-American Society, sponsor of the event, for "poor taste" in scheduling Farrakhan's speech on the 49th anniversary of Kristallnacht, the destruction of hundreds of synagogues and Jewish-owned businesses in Germany and Austria.

Local Jewish groups reacted to the appearance with restrained anger. University Hillel house director Rabbi Milton Elefant helped stage a demonstration outside the Schine Center.

However, Hillel's plans for a peaceful protest were undermined when it was learned that the JDO was sending armed representatives to join the rally. Elefant rejected the JDO involvement.

Armed Syracuse city police, on foot and on horseback, some leading guard dogs, joined an augmented campus force to patrol the area. Farrakhan's dapper and well-mannered bodyguards were posted at every entrance to the building.

Farrakhan, leader of the 10,000-member Chicago-based Nation of Islam, was originally scheduled to speak at a large theater, but the facility's owners cancelled following strong local opposition to his appearance.

Speaking before a predominantly black audience, he avoided reference to accusations that he has called Judaism a "gutter religion" and Hitler a "great man." But, he noted, "The press is upset because they didn't hear me say something that maybe they want to print tonight... I can easily defend every statement for the Jewish community members who are here."

He said the prophet Mohammed "did not want the Jews to say, 'I am better because you were chosen by God for a duty,' not to walk around like pompous peacocks saying 'I am God's chosen people.' You must do the work of the chosen in order to remain the chosen."

TENSION HIGH IN GAZA AFTER ARAB GIRL FATALLY SHOT

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- Tension is running high in the Gaza Strip following the fatal shooting of a 17-year-old Arab girl Tuesday and the wounding of two others Wednesday in clashes

between rock-throwing students and armed Jewish settlers.

Six settlers were detained for questioning Tuesday and four remained in custody Wednesday in connection with the shooting death of Intissar El Atar, a high school student in Deir El Balah, a normally quiet town in the southern end of the Gaza Strip. The four are expected to be arraigned in court Thursday.

The settlers insist they fired only warning shots into the air when their Tel Aviv-bound vehicle was stopped by a road block on the main street of Deir El Balah and they were "attacked" by about 50 girls from the nearby school. They said the girls continued to throw rocks at soldiers and police who rushed to the scene.

A similar clash occurred Wednesday just off the main road in Gaza. Settlers claimed they were forced to open fire when attacked with rocks at a roadblock, but only fired into the air. They could not explain how two girls sustained bullet wounds. One, hit in the stomach, was hospitalized in Ashkelon. Her condition was described as "serious."

Military authorities moved quickly to restore order in the territory. A curfew was imposed on the Deir El Balah area. Two local schools were ordered closed. The Islamic University in Gaza, often a source of unrest, was shut down voluntarily by its administration until the end of the week.

Gen. Yitzhak Mordechai, commander of the southern region of the Israel Defense Force, met with leaders of the Arab community and representatives of Jewish settlers in an effort to contain the tension. He also met with Mayor Samir El Azaize of Deir El Balah and told the family of the slain girl that the security forces would do everything possible to find the killer.

While it remains unclear who fired the fatal and wounding shots, Reuven Rosenblat, chairman of the regional council of Jewish settlements, implied Tuesday that the use of deadly force was justified.

"If the rock-throwing youth know that nothing can be done against them, they will continue throwing stones until they kill us," he said on an army radio interview.

On Monday in the West Bank, Israel Defense Force troops wounded with gunshots an Arab youth from the Balat refugee camp near Nablus while dispersing a crowd that had pelted them with stones. According to IDF sources, dozens of youths from the camp attacked soldiers and police on a neighboring highway.

DEMJANJUK WITNESS CHALLENGES ID CARD

JERUSALEM, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- An internationally recognized expert on documents told a Jerusalem court Tuesday that a key piece of prosecution evidence in the war crimes trial of John Demjanjuk of Cleveland, accused of operating the gas chamber at the Treblinka death camp, was probably not authentic.

Dr. Julius Grant, a British chemist who recently exposed the purported Hitler diaries as forgeries, raised what he thought were inconsistencies with the Trawniki identification card allegedly issued by the Nazi SS to Demjanjuk.

Grant testified Tuesday that the photo on it of Demjanjuk was not original, but had been attached later. On Monday he had said the signature on the document was "unlikely to be genuine."

**VANDALS STRIKE JEWISH SITES
IN CHICAGO, NEW YORK AREA****By Andrew Silow Carroll**

NEW YORK, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- Vandals struck Jewish sites in two major U.S. metropolitan areas on the 49th anniversary of Kristallnacht, when hundreds of synagogues and Jewish-owned businesses were destroyed in Austria and Germany.

Chicago police are investigating what appears to be an organized attack early Tuesday morning on Jewish-owned shops along the 2900 block of Devon Street and in the city's Albany Park neighborhood, and on three synagogues in the predominately Jewish West Rogers Park area.

The Chicago attack "seems to represent a deliberate attempt to mimic Kristallnacht," the night of Nov. 9-10, 1938, according to Michael Kotzin, executive director of the Greater Chicago region of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith (ADL).

According to Kotzin, storefront windows were smashed and swastikas were drawn on the walls of Congregation KINS and Temple Beth-El sometime between 1 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. Tuesday. Both synagogues also had windows and glass doors smashed, as did Congregation Poalie Zedeck.

The swastikas were drawn with what seemed like chalk, according to Rabbi Paul Greenman of Congregation KINS, who was able to wash off the swastikas on Tuesday.

The four vandalized stores in the Albany Park area included two kosher meat markets, a bagel bakery and a Judaica shop and bookstore. Along Devon Street, the targets included the ABC Fashion shop, Robert's Fish Market, the Kosher Karry delicatessen, and Rosenblum's Hebrew Book Store. A Korean-owned grocery next to Rosenblum's also had its windows smashed.

According to book store owner William Rosenblum, the alarm in his shop went off a little after 1 a.m. Tuesday. Police arrived to find his front windows shattered. Nothing was missing from the store, said Rosenblum, but police found in the debris a decal bearing a small swastika. Police said the windows were smashed with a hammer or other blunt instrument, according to Kotzin.

'Never Happened Before'

"Something like this never happened before in 45 years of business in Chicago," said Rosenblum, whose shop has been at its West Devon location for 10 years. "This is a blow. The whole community is up in arms."

Kotzin released a statement saying, in part: "Today's local acts cannot be dismissed as harmless pranks. They are serious, and remind us that the kind of hate which generated the Holocaust still exists." Kotzin said the police investigation was being conducted by the Neighborhood Relations Division, the Chicago Police Department's "bias-crimes" unit. Investigators were unable to be reached Wednesday due to the Veterans Day holiday.

The Chicago chapter of the ADL had not recorded an act of anti-Jewish vandalism since June 1, when a Holocaust monument in Skokie, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, was defaced the day after it was unveiled.

In Yonkers, a sedate suburb just north of New York City, the Midchester Jewish Community Center was defaced Tuesday morning. Swastikas in gray spray paint and the slogan "Heil Hitler" covered the front, sides and entrance of the

building, including a decorative menorah sculpture adorning the front wall.

Office staff at Midchester, a synagogue and community center, said they could remember no similar event there.

Rabbi Bernhard Rosenberg said he was leaving the graffiti intact "until they catch whomever did it. I want it up as a reminder."

About 200 persons, including local priests and pastors, attended an interfaith service at the synagogue Tuesday night to protest the anti-Semitic defacement and show neighborhood solidarity.

**SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIAL SAYS
JEWS MAY ACCOMPANY GORBACHEV****By Howard Rosenberg**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev may bring along some Soviet Jews when he comes to Washington next month for his meeting with President Reagan, a Soviet Embassy official indicated Sunday.

The official, First Secretary Igor Khripunov, told this to Ina Lerman, education specialist for the Greater Washington Jewish Board of Education, and two students from a Maryland synagogue school.

Khripunov, in an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, confirmed that he anticipates that Gorbachev will bring along someone "authoritative" on Soviet Jewry. He suggested it might be Samuel Ziv, a member of the Soviet Anti-Zionist Committee, who has long maintained that Jews face no persecution in the Soviet Union.

Lerman said that Khripunov also told her he expects Soviet Jewish emigration will continue to increase in the coming months. More than 6,000 Soviet Jews have been allowed to emigrate so far in 1987.

Lerman and the two students, Allison Gluckman and David Altschuler, both 11, were admitted to the embassy after they rang its doorbell. The youths, both from Congregation B'nai Shalom in Olney, Md., were among 300 from Washington area congregational schools who participated Sunday in a vigil for Soviet Jewry across from the embassy.

The three met with Khripunov for about 10 minutes, Lerman said, and he accepted a petition from the students urging the Soviets to permit Jews to emigrate.

This is one of the few times the embassy has allowed Jewish demonstrators inside. The gesture comes at a time when Soviet Jewry activists and national Jewish leaders are organizing a massive demonstration in Washington, timed to coincide with Gorbachev's arrival on Dec. 6 for talks with Reagan the following day.

Thousands of Soviet Jewry supporters from cities across the country are expected to participate in the demonstration, which will feature appearances by such recently released well-known refuseniks as Ida Nudel, Vladimir and Maria Slepak, Yuli Edelshtein, Mikhail Kholmiansky and Natan Sharansky.

POLES CHEER ISRAELI ORCHESTRA

TEL AVIV, Nov. 11 (JTA) -- The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and its conductor, Zubin Mehta, received a 15-minute standing ovation and Mehta was called back to the stage 11 times at its concert in Warsaw's Grand Theater on Monday night, according to reports reaching Israel from the Polish capital.

**BEHIND THE HEADLINES:
MODERATES ARE THE WINNERS
FROM ARAB SUMMIT IN AMMAN**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- The three-day Arab summit meeting in Amman ended Wednesday in a clear-cut political victory for its host, King Hussein of Jordan.

The Hashemite monarch, who has never been accused of audacity in expressing moderate views among his peers, this time placed on the table his plans for an international peace conference as an instrumentality for negotiations with Israel.

And he won endorsement for it, even the grudging approval of President Hafez Assad of Syria, long a bitter foe of any approach to peace with Israel and until recently one of Hussein's severest critics.

The king was able to claim at the end of the summit that it had brought to the Arabs unity of "word, stand and goal." Indeed, the participants exhibited a skill rare in inter-Arab diplomacy of burying, or at least white-washing, their traditional differences. Even such arch-enemies as Assad and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq exchanged smiles.

Observers may have wondered beforehand why Hussein, ruler of a desert kingdom with serious economic difficulties, took the risk of holding a summit that may well have been a dismal failure, and of raising such delicate issues as an international peace conference. Had the gambit failed, his ability for diplomatic maneuvering would have been greatly restricted.

The answer apparently lies in the timing. The participants at the summit -- not all Arab countries attended -- were clearly far more concerned with the immediate dangers posed by Iran in its eight-year war with Iraq, than with their conflict with Israel, which has been simmering for 40 years.

Hussein's Stance Endorsed

The summit endorsed Hussein's basic line of policy -- total backing of Iraq in the Persian Gulf war. The move represents a sharp reversal of position by Assad who, with Col. Moammar Gadhafi of Libya, is the only Arab leader to have supported the regime of the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Assad dutifully assented in the condemnation of Iran.

In that context, the international peace conference was a far less urgent matter. The Israel government remains sharply divided on the issue. Moreover, Hussein was forced to agree that the Palestine Liberation Organization must participate, which makes the prospects of a conference even more remote. But there was no mention of a Palestinian state in any of the resolutions adopted at the summit, a score in Hussein's favor.

Nevertheless, a Damascus radio commentary Thursday said the summit conference did not obscure, at least for Syria, "the real problem of the Arab world -- facing the Israeli enemy."

On the other hand, the success of the summit, from Israel's point of view, was underlined by the fact that it was condemned by only

two countries -- Iran and Libya -- and that it resulted in a significant rehabilitation of Egypt in the Arab world, without in the least compromising Israeli-Egyptian diplomatic relations.

Egypt Has Reason To Be Pleased

Egypt did not attend the Amman summit, but had good reason to be satisfied with its outcome. Officially, Egypt has been boycotted by the Arab League since it signed its peace treaty with Israel in March 1979. But at the summit this week, each Arab country was given permission to renew ties with Cairo in the name of "recruiting all resources to accomplish the ends of the Arab people."

Cairo radio welcomed on Thursday those Arab countries which "returned to Egypt." So far, the only one is the small Gulf state of Abu Dhabi, which renewed diplomatic relations with Egypt immediately after the summit.

But its foreign minister, Rashed Abdallah, said in Cairo Thursday that other Gulf states would soon follow suit. He said his country's decision was taken after consultations with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain.

In Israel Thursday, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Hussein came out of the summit strengthened since the other Arab countries did not slam the peace door in his face. Premier Yitzhak Shamir was concerned however over summit resolutions that called for joint action against Israel.

**JACKSON SENDS PROMISED LETTER
ASKING SYRIA TO EXTRADITE NAZI**
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- The Rev. Jesse Jackson has fulfilled his promise to Nazi-hunter Beate Klarsfeld to write to President Hafez al-Assad of Syria, asking for the extradition to West Germany of alleged Nazi war criminal Alois Brunner.

Jackson made the promise last week to Klarsfeld, who for years has been seeking to bring Brunner to trial.

The letter reportedly was sent Wednesday night to the charge d'affaires at the Syrian Embassy in Washington. A copy was sent to Jackson's friend, political analyst Anne Lewis in Washington, whose office made the text available to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

In the one-page letter, Jackson refers to the good relations created between himself and the Syrian president in 1984, when Jackson secured the release of American reconnaissance pilot Robert Goodman, whose plane was shot down by Syrian troops in Lebanon.

At that time, Jackson writes in the letter, Assad showed "visionary leadership in demonstrating that this sign could be a first step in moving our nations in the direction of peace and negotiation rather than confrontation -- an art of humanity and statesmanship."

In 1984, Jackson recalls, he and Assad "talked candidly yet respectfully of the need for peace and better communication in the Mideast. And we discussed the role of the PLO in the region and of the State of Israel.

"I asked you to consider the long-term benefits of a policy of mutual recognition of a safe and secure homeland, both for the Palestinians and for the Israelis, of a policy of discussion and negotiation rather than war and confrontation, all as necessary steps toward a permanent peace in the region."

Brunner Unrepentant

Within that context, Jackson raised the issue of Brunner, and of the interview Brunner gave to his "home-town paper," The Chicago Sun-Times, on Nov. 1, in which he said he was unrepentant for having killed Jews and "would do it again."

Jackson refers in his letter to Syria's claim that Brunner was not in that country. "Despite denials, the reports persist," he writes. "The heinous acts against humanity of the Third Reich cry out even this day for justice.

"Wherever Mr. Brunner seeks sanctuary, it must be denied. Releasing him for extradition to Germany would be the morally correct action to take. It would send the signal of good intentions around the world."

Assad's help in this matter, notes Jackson, would be "another opportunity to make a difference. Please accept my respectful request that you investigate this matter with all due haste. I am confident that in the name of peace and morality you will then take the appropriate action."

REFUSENIK ENDS LONG HUNGER STRIKE; 24 COLLEAGUES FAST FOR A DAY

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- A Soviet Jewish refusenik ended her 24-day hunger strike Tuesday, three days after 30 Moscow Jews held a one-day fast to protest state-sponsored anti-Semitism.

Anna Kholmiansky of Moscow, 27, concluded her marathon fast after her father, Yakov Yerukhimovich, provided the long-sought consent to allow her to apply to emigrate, according to the Coalition to Free Soviet Jews.

Alan Pesky, coalition chairman, described the consent requirement as "symptomatic of a Soviet legal system that remains arbitrary and repressive."

Meanwhile, on Saturday, when the Soviets celebrated the 70th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, the 30 Moscow Jews staged their own hunger strike.

Stephen Solender, executive vice president of the United Jewish Appeal-Federation of New York, learned of the strike Sunday during a telephone conversation with refusenik Allya Zonis, whom he met last month in Moscow.

Consent Is At Issue

Zonis, a refusenik since 1985, lost her job as a computer programmer when she applied for a visa. She now works as a cleaning woman and heads a group of refuseniks who are unable to emigrate because of lack of consent by parents or other relatives.

The group issued a declaration of "a one-day hunger strike as a protest against discrimination against Jews in the Soviet Union. . . We protest the violations in treatment of Jews awaiting repatriation to Israel. We demand the cessation of religious and cultural crushing of Jews. We demand a stop to the provocation (and) propaganda against us in the press and on television."

When Solender asked Zonis of the Soviet reaction to the declaration, she replied, "There was no reaction."

Anna Kholmiansky married Aleksander Kholmiansky two years ago. He had served 18 months in a labor camp on a charge of illegal weapons possession that Soviet Jewry activists say is false. They have a five-month-old daughter, Dora.

Aleksander, 37, a computer scientist, first applied to emigrate in 1978. Since then, he has worked as a janitor and has been one of Moscow's leading Jewish activists, as well as an unofficial Hebrew teacher. Jews from around the country have traveled to study under his intensive language instruction.

He was arrested for "hooliganism" in 1984 during a camping trip in Estonia, according to the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. He was initially accused of tampering with a mailbox and trampling flowers, but his 10-day detention turned into six months while the prosecutor investigated him.

Although his friends had searched his apartment after his arrest to ensure that nothing the authorities would deem suspicious was found, the KGB claimed to have found a pistol and ammunition. He was sentenced to 18 months in labor camp for illegal weapons possession, and fined about \$120 for mailbox tampering. During his initial detention, Kholmiansky also staged a long hunger strike.

Her brother-in-law, Mikhail Kholmiansky, a former refusenik, arrived in Israel last summer. He will be in Washington on Dec. 6 to participate in the mobilization for Soviet Jewry at the time of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit conference.

VISITING ISRAELI OFFICIAL CLAIMS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IS DEAD

By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- The view of official Washington is that the idea of an international peace conference for the Middle East is presently dead, according to Moshe Katzav, Israel's minister of labor and social affairs.

Katzav is member of the Herut wing of the Likud bloc, whose leader, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, opposes the international peace conference idea, which has been chiefly advanced in Israel by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and his Labor Party.

Katzav was in Washington this week for a two-day visit that included a meeting at the State Department Monday with Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asian affairs.

In an interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Katzav quoted Murphy as telling him that "for the time being, as far as the U.S. is concerned, the idea of an international peace conference is dead."

Furthermore, during the recent visit of Secretary of State George Shultz to Moscow, "the issue of an international peace conference was not discussed at all between Shultz and the Soviet leadership," Katzav pointed out.

"An international peace conference is not only useless but also dangerous to the future of the Mideast," Katzav asserted. He said that if such a conference took place, it would surely fail, and then the Arabs' only option would be to resort to war with Israel.

Katzav also contended that "all the talk about an international peace conference" just

makes it harder to discuss any other ideas to achieve peace, such as the idea of direct, face-to-face talks between Israel and Jordan the same as it was between Israel and Egypt nearly 10 years ago.

Asked if he found in Washington an indication that America's economic troubles and its large trade deficit will eventually result in a sharp cut in American aid to Israel, Katzav replied: "My general impression was that there is an understanding in Washington of Israel's economic needs and difficulties. The issue of America's economic problems was mentioned, but there was not any indication that aid to Israel will be affected.

"My impression was, at the end of my visit to Washington, that all of the American commitments to Israel, as far as aid is concerned, will be honored," he said.

LINES DRAWN IN BATTLE OVER DUTCH STAGING OF FASSBINDER PLAY

By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- A controversy is boiling in Holland over the scheduled opening of a play by the late Rainer Werner Fassbinder in which one of the principal characters, an exploiter, is known as "the rich Jew."

Opponents of the play "Garbage, the City and Death" want it banned on grounds it is anti-Semitic. Supporters contend it is symbolic, not anti-Semitic, and argue that a ban would amount to censorship and an abridgement of basic rights guaranteed by the Dutch constitution.

As the play's Nov. 18 premier at Rotterdam's Lantern Theater approaches, the lines of debate have been drawn. On one side is virtually the entire Jewish community of the Netherlands, supported by many non-Jews, including the 40,000-member "Christians for Israel," a Protestant organization.

The Netherlands Ashkenazi Congregation, which is traditional, was joined this week by the Liberal Jewish Congregation of Rotterdam and the Anne Frank Foundation in protests against the play. Earlier, objections were raised by Stiba, the foundation for combatting anti-Semitism, and Cidi, the center for information and documentation on Israel, which also fights anti-Semitism.

They lodged protests with the Rotterdam Municipal Executive and the Lantern Theater management, so far to no avail. The municipal authorities have tried to be neutral, but Rotterdam's alderman for cultural affairs spoke out this week against "cultural censorship."

He was promptly taken to task by Rabbi Lody Van De Kamp of The Hague, who recalled that, within living memory, the failure to exercise "cultural censorship" resulted in the murder of millions of Jews.

Leading supporters of the play include the Amsterdam Theatrical Academy. A recent graduate, Johan Doesburg, is producing the Dutch version of the Fassbinder play as his graduate project. He acknowledges the fear that the work may "foster hatred against the Jewish community," but insists this does not justify a boycott.

Doesburg recently contended in an interview with the Dutch Jewish weekly NIW that the protests were unfair. "In this play, not only Jews are presented, but also dwarfs, pimps and whores, but of all these groups, only the Jews have reacted hysterically," he said.

Doesburg's drama teacher, Louk Zonneveld, has stressed that an artist must be free to give expression to controversies in society and said "we must not allow ourselves to evade discussion of these problems." Other supporters have suggested that the play could be the source of discussion of anti-Semitism.

On Wednesday night, the Evangelical Broadcasting Co. allowed the Christians for Israel organization to explain why it objects to the play. It also opened its telephones to listeners. There were opinions pro and con, with two callers expressing anti-Semitic feelings.

One woman claimed Fassbinder, a West German, was a Jew and intended his play to be a warning to his fellow Jews of what would happen if they did not mend their ways. Another listener said the world should protest the actions of Israel, not Fassbinder's play.

The play has a stormy history. Its original premier on Oct. 31, 1985 was cancelled after members of the local Jewish community occupied the stage of Frankfurt's Kammerspiel Theater and held up banners charging anti-Semitism. The play was then withdrawn by its German impresario after a private staging for critics.

It remained in limbo until performed in New York last year. That opened the way for a scheduled tour of Holland following a premier at the Frascati theater in Amsterdam. But it was dropped by Frascati because of protests, to be reinstated by the Lantern Theater in Rotterdam.

SHOULD HAVE CHECKED ON WALDHEIM, SAYS AUSTRIAN WHO NOMINATED HIM

VIENNA, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- Former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky of Austria has admitted he erred when he proposed Kurt Waldheim for the office of United Nations secretary general in the early 1970s.

The World Jewish Congress reports that Kreisky told a packed lecture audience at a Vienna concert hall that he had failed to gather detailed information about Waldheim's Nazi past.

Kreisky, a leader of the Austrian Socialist Party and a non-practicing Jew, served as chancellor from 1970-83. Waldheim was elected president of Austria in July 1986, having served as U.N. secretary general from 1972-82.

"I proposed and supported the candidacy of an official of the Foreign Ministry (Waldheim) for the job of U.N. secretary general who quite obviously had not told the truth about himself," Kreisky said.

He hinted that the United States and the Soviet Union, which both supported Waldheim for secretary general, knew more about his past than he had.

Waldheim concealed for 40 years the fact that he had been an intelligence officer with the German army in the Balkans during World War II. His unit was involved in the deportation of Greek Jews and atrocities against partisans and civilians in Yugoslavia. Its commanding general was hanged as a war criminal in 1947.

Waldheim's connection was exposed during his presidential election campaign, largely through the efforts of the World Jewish Congress. He won a landslide victory. It emerged later that Waldheim's name is in the files of the Allied War Crimes Commission, among some 25,000 Class A suspects on whom there is sufficient evidence to warrant prosecution.

The files of the long defunct commission were turned over to the United Nations when its investigations were completed, and are now kept at the U.N. archives in midtown Manhattan.

Until a week ago they were accessible only to governments of member states. But after persistent appeals by Israel, the 17 former members of the war crimes commission agreed to open the files containing dossiers on more than 40,000 Nazi war criminals, to scholars, researchers, historians and journalists.

Waldheim has been placed on the "watch list" of the U.S. Department of Justice as an alien to be denied admission to the U.S.

SPLITS EMERGE IN GREEN PARTY OVER ITS POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL

By David Kantor

BONN, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- The opposition Green Party is embroiled in a bitter internal conflict over its policy toward Israel, which, according to political observers here, could result in a fatal split.

The conflict is essentially between the moderates or "realists" in the party's parliamentary faction, and the extremists, known as "fundamentalists." While the Greens as a whole have always tilted toward the Arab cause in the Middle East, the moderates have been more even-handed, drawing the wrath of the fundamentalists who seem totally committed to Arab goals.

The immediate cause of the latest crisis is a case in point. A delegation of moderates visited Israel last month, headed by Otto Schilly, a prominent member of the Green Bundestag faction. The visit was a success from Israel's standpoint. While some members of the delegation, including Schilly, were critical of certain Israeli policies, the overall impression was a high degree of sympathy for the Jewish state.

Two weeks ago, the party's leadership body condemned the delegation for alleged failure to accurately represent the Green position while in Israel. Fundamentalists, notably Juergen Reents of Hamburg, accused Schilly and others of expressing "racist" and "colonialist" positions on their tour.

Schilly and others in the Bundestag faction wanted that condemnation reversed. But they failed, after an angry debate, by a vote of 13-12. The situation was a reversal of three years ago, when a fundamentalist delegation headed by Reents visited Israel and was condemned by the moderates for demonstrating anti-Semitic bias.

The success of the fundamentalists in the latest confrontation prompted Schilly to remark Wednesday that he would think about its "consequences." His statement prompted speculation that the realist wing would break away from the party.

Hubert Kleinart, the Green "whip" in the Bundestag, said in a radio interview Thursday that if Schilly decided to leave, he wouldn't be alone.

The Green Party, from its inception early in the decade as a coalition of ecologists, pacifists and anti-nuclear activists, has projected a schizoid image toward Jews and Israel. It has expelled at least a dozen members over the years for espousing neo-Nazi ideas and blatant anti-Semitism. But it has regularly opposed economic aid to Israel, maintaining that the funds should go to the Palestinian victims of Israeli "aggression." The Green Party was first elected to the Bundestag in 1983 and presently holds 28 seats in the 498-member body. It has remained independent

nationally, though on occasion entered into coalitions with the larger established party on the state level. The most notable was an alliance in 1985 with the Social Democratic Party (SPD) in Hesse.

Political observers here believe the schism within the party is more deeply rooted than the row over Israel and stems from issues far removed from the Middle East conflict. Nevertheless, according to the observers, the party has never been closer than now to breaking apart.

JAPAN SENDS HIGH-LEVEL TRADE DELEGATION TO ISRAEL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 12 (JTA) -- A high-level Japanese trade delegation arrived here Wednesday for wide-ranging talks on commercial relations and international economic conditions. According to observers, this may be a further signal that Japan is ending its long-standing tilt toward compliance with the Arab League boycott of Israel.

The delegation, which met with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres Thursday morning, is headed by Nihichiro Hanamura, chairman of an umbrella organization of Japanese businesses. Israel's ambassador to Japan, Yaacov Cohen, who flew in from Tokyo for the talks, noted that this is the 15th official delegation from Japan to visit Israel since 1985.

Prior to that year there were none. Cohen pointed out that cultural relations between the two countries have improved immensely over the past two years and predicted that trade relations will do as well.

Israel is something of an anomaly among Japan's trading partners. According to the Japanese, it is the only country with which Japan has an unfavorable trade balance. Last year Japan imported \$322.4 million worth of goods from Israel, but sold Israel only \$274.6 million.

Ambassador Cohen said Wednesday that Israel hopes to double its exports to Japan in the next two years.

Trade experts observe, however, that Israel's trade balance with Japan may not be as impressive as the statistics show. Two-thirds of Israel's exports to Japan are polished diamonds, the income from which must be balanced against the high cost of Israel's purchase of rough stones. Therefore, the net figures may still be in Japan's favor, the experts say.

Reluctance to Do Business

Part of the trade imbalance may be due to the reluctance of giant Japanese firms to do business with Israel. Japan is especially vulnerable to Arab pressure, because the country is heavily dependent upon Middle East oil. This has been said to account for the fact that leading Japanese automobile manufacturers, such as Honda, Toyota and Mitsubishi, do not sell their vehicles in Israel.

Cohen said Israel recently changed its tactics with respect to exports to Japan. Instead of seeking its markets among the largest Japanese corporations, which have heavy investments in the Arab world and fear the consequences of non-compliance with the boycott, Israeli businesses are now being encouraged to enter into partnerships with medium-sized firms that are less concerned with the boycott.

**WANTED NAZI WAR CRIMINAL
APPREHENDED IN ARGENTINA**

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- A news conference convened by the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Jerusalem last month, at which its list of 10 most-wanted Nazi war criminals was announced to the world media, appears to have reaped a large reward.

Possibly aided by information publicized by the center Oct. 13 at the King David Hotel, federal police in Argentina on Friday arrested fugitive Nazi war criminal Josef Schwammberger, accused mass murderer of Jews in the Polish towns of Przemysl, Rozwadow and Stalowa-Wola.

Schwammberger was No. 5 on the list of the Los Angeles-based Wiesenthal Center.

Schwammberger, 75, was arrested in the province of Cordoba in northern Argentina, about 500 miles from Buenos Aires, where he is believed to have been hiding for about two weeks. He was flown to Buenos Aires Friday night and then moved back to La Plata, 60 miles to the south, for an extradition hearing.

Schwammberger was arrested in Austria following World War II, but it is believed he escaped to South America in 1948 with the help of the Nazi network called "Odessa," according to the Wiesenthal Center.

Argentine authorities believe he arrived in their country in 1950. The Wiesenthal Center first reported his presence there in 1966.

Hundreds Of Executions

The West German government asked Argentina for Schwammberger's extradition 14 years ago. Documents provided by a court in Stuttgart describe Schwammberger as a former SS officer in Poland, responsible for hundreds of executions while commandant of the Rozwadow labor camp in 1942, the Przemysl camp at the end of 1943, and director of a concentration camp at Mielec in 1944 and 1945.

Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Wiesenthal Center, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the center released Schwammberger's SS file and his photo at the Oct. 13 news conference, attended by media representatives from several nations.

"This was picked up by the Argentine wire service," said Hier. "That night in Jerusalem, I was phoned by the Argentine television station for details of Schwammberger. They already had his photograph."

'Worldwide Apathy'

"This shows, once again, that the only thing standing between these mass murderers and the bar of justice is worldwide apathy," he added. "We applaud the continued interest and commitment to this case of West Germany's justice minister, Hans Engelhard."

Argentine police, accompanied by a federal judge, Vicente Bretal, said that Schwammberger offered no resistance when he was arrested at a ranch near the town of Huerta Grande. The fugitive, living under an assumed name, readily admitted he was Schwammberger.

Bretal said he knew that Schwammberger was living in La Plata, at least until 1980, and that in recent months he had begun to follow some leads, which he did not identify.

The judge said a search of Schwammberger's living place in La Plata turned up clues leading them to Cordoba.

Court officials indicated Schwammberger had rented a room at the ranch only two weeks earlier and appeared to be planning another move, being apparently aware that police were closing in on him.

Hier said that requests for Schwammberger's extradition could come from either West Germany or Poland, but he thinks West Germany will exercise jurisdiction. "The Polish government has not indicated anything."

In describing details of Schwammberger's crimes, Hier said that on Nov. 17, 1942, when Schwammberger allegedly became commander of the Przemysl ghetto, "the policy was to execute Jewish inmates on a weekly basis," said Hier.

"He took particular pleasure in seeing them undress. He would then either beat them or have them shot as part of a method to keep a constant fear in the camp."

Responsible for 5,000 Deaths

In total, said Hier, "we estimate that he was responsible for the murder of close to 5,000 people in his capacity as lagerfuehrer in those 3 camps."

Hier said the Wiesenthal Center has testimony on Schwammberger from 42 different witnesses in its files and archives and that the center has located a major witness against him in Los Angeles.

There is reportedly also a file on Schwammberger in the United Nations archives in Manhattan, which was opened earlier this month to foreign governments and Holocaust researchers.

The Wiesenthal Center has requested that any witnesses from the Przemysl, Rozwadow and Stalowa-Wola areas contact them if they have further evidence against Schwammberger.

Hier said that a full trial would be held in West Germany for Schwammberger, where he is charged with mass murder and torture.

"It is our understanding that the extradition proceedings against him will move very quickly, because Argentina has indicated its willingness to cooperate with the West German government, so that Schwammberger can be quickly handled, hopefully in the next few weeks," said Hier.

**HERZOG, RECEIVING SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL
AWARD, DECRIES EXTREMISM IN ISRAEL**
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- Declaring that "one of my greatest fears" is extremism in Israeli society, Israel's President Chaim Herzog charged here Saturday night that "some of the most provocative extremist elements" in Israel are funded by groups in the American Jewish community.

He said that although the phenomenon is marginal and belongs to the periphery of Israeli society, it is a problem not only of Israel, but of

the Jewish people as a whole. He urged American Jews to address themselves to it.

Herzog, who is on a state visit to the United States, the first ever by a president of Israel, addressed rabbinic and lay leaders of Conservative, Orthodox and Reform Judaism at a private dinner given in his honor by the Synagogue Council of America at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. It was attended by about 80 people.

Herzog, who earlier in the week met with President Reagan and addressed a special joint session of Congress, appeared at the Saturday evening dinner to receive the SCA's Covenant of Peace Award for 1987, a statuette of the prophet Isaiah. The presentation was made by the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Elie Wiesel.

The Israeli president also was to receive an honorary doctor of laws degree from Brandeis University Sunday before returning to Israel Sunday night.

In his remarks to the SCA, Herzog did not identify the extremist elements in Israel, but he appeared to be referring to Rabbi Meir Kahane and his Kach party, which advocates, among other things, the expulsion of Arabs from Israel and the administered territories.

Satmars Demonstrate Outside

As he spoke, several thousand Satmar Hasidim, a sect of anti-Zionist ultra-Orthodox Jews, demonstrated outside the hotel. They assailed Herzog and denounced Israel as a "Nazi state."

The Israeli president referred to the demonstrators as an example of religious extremism and intolerance. They prompted Wiesel to remark, "I am ashamed that these are religious Jews. What they do to the religious reputation of our people is unforgivable."

In the course of his speech, Herzog stressed the urgency of Jewish education and aliyah, noting that when education is intensified, aliyah increases. It was the same theme he sounded when he spoke at a breakfast hosted by the Young Leadership Network of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York Friday morning at the Plaza Hotel.

On that occasion, Herzog declared that "aliyah is the answer" to demographic trends that threaten to result in the Arab population becoming the majority in Israel.

"World Jewry plays a major role in Israel's demographic future," the Israeli president said. He added that Israel hopes for mass Soviet Jewish immigration and at the same time expects the Jewish youth of America to come and "meet the challenge" of life in Israel.

He also stressed that Jewish education is the tool for preserving Jewish identity outside of Israel.

Addressing the leadership of the SCA, the umbrella organization of Conservative, Orthodox and Reform Judaism in America, Herzog spoke of "the centrality of Israel" in the life of world Jewry.

Pushes For Aliyah

The logical conclusion of this is to encourage aliyah, which will not only solve Israel's demographic problem but is also an answer to the problem "of erosion of the Jewish people" through intermarriage in the United States and in large diaspora Jewish communities elsewhere.

"Where there is highly (motivated) Jewish education there is more aliyah," Herzog declared. *Education also can prevent further assimilation of*

Jewish youth and Jewish communities throughout the world.

Herzog cited Australia as an example. In that country, where 80 percent of Jewish children receive a Jewish education, aliyah has increased in recent years and there is a very low percentage of assimilation, he said.

Herzog also expressed confidence that as Israel has resolved its ethnic problem between Ashkenazic and Sephardic Jews, so it will bridge the gap between religious and secular Jews in its society.

Yearning For Peace

On the issue of peace between Israel and its Arab neighbors, the Israeli chief of state observed that in the 10 years since President Anwar Sadat of Egypt made his historic visit to Jerusalem, there has been "slow but steady" progress toward peace in the Middle East. He credited this in large measure to the efforts of the United States. "Our people in Israel yearn for peace," Herzog said.

Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, president of the SCA, announced at the dinner that his organization is launching a new outreach effort to help Christian clergy and lay leaders to better understand "the meaning of the land of Israel and its centrality to the people of Israel everywhere."

He said, "Our recent exchanges with the Vatican proved once again that Israel plays a key role with the non-Jewish community. It is therefore essential that the priest and minister, the businessman and businesswoman, the political leader and neighbor-to-neighbor learn all they can about the monumental achievements of Israel, especially on her 40th anniversary."

Klaperman explained that the SCA will expand its dialogue on "a peer-to-peer basis" with Christian institutional leaders and at the same time "we will work with our constituent agencies to coordinate existing outreach programs to the Christian community."

Move To Repeal 1975 U.N. Resolution

At the JCRC breakfast Friday, Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.) presented Herzog with a congressional resolution calling for the overturn of the 1975 United Nations General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism. The congressional resolution was unanimously approved by the Congress and signed by President Reagan earlier in the week.

The senator called for "globalization" of the resolution in a campaign to prepare the ground for the repeal of the anti-Zionist resolution by next September, at the 43rd session of the General Assembly.

Both Herzog and Moynihan represented their respective countries at the United Nations when Resolution 3379 was adopted by an overwhelming majority of the membership.

Herzog also met Friday with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the United Nations headquarters. According to officials who accompanied Herzog to the meeting, it was friendly, lasted longer than an hour and dealt with the issues of Israeli prisoners of war still held in Lebanon and Syria, as well as Resolution 3379.

Herzog urged the secretary general to use his influence on both issues, the officials said, and congratulated him for his Nov. 6 decision to open files on Nazi war criminals stored in the U.N. archives.

SUMMIT AIDED JORDAN AT PLO'S EXPENSE, SAYS ISRAEL'S FOREIGN MINISTRY

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- The Foreign Ministry believes the Arab summit conference in Amman last week strengthened the position of Jordan's King Hussein and deepened the decline of Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasir Arafat, according to Al Hamishmar Friday.

The ministry's appraisal is based on analysis of the resolutions passed at the summit, the newspaper notes.

Although many of the familiar extremist Arab declarations concerning the Israeli-Arab conflict were contained in the resolutions of the summit, they did not include the usual demand for an independent Palestinian state.

The resolution that the PLO must participate in a Mideast peace conference "on the basis of equality" was seen by the ministry as meaning that the PLO would not attend as a separate delegation, but as part of a joint delegation with Jordan.

Apparently, this could also allow the formation of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, without explicit mention of the PLO. It was also noted that the summit did not adopt the anti-Israel formulations that the PLO had demanded.

In addition, it is said that the willingness to accept Egypt back into the Arab fold constitutes a de facto recognition of both the Camp David accords and the State of Israel.

Syria, Too, Must 'Open The Door'

Foreign Ministry Director-General Avraham Tamir was quoted Thursday as expressing on army radio his belief "that even Syria, despite some of its opinions, has to open the door to political negotiations without prior conditions. This is the central idea of an international conference. I believe that Syria, too, would prefer a political solution over a military solution."

Haaretz quoted the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Rai Al-Am as saying that Syria will receive \$2.5 billion -- presumably from wealthier Arab countries including Saudi Arabia -- in exchange for its reconciliation with Iraq.

The paper reported that this was decided in meetings held between Presidents Saddam Hussein of Iraq and Hafez Assad of Syria at King Hussein's residence.

THREE TERRORISTS KILLED IN SECURITY ZONE CLASH

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- Three armed terrorists were killed in a clash with an Israel Defense Force unit patrolling the southern Lebanon security zone, northeast of Ishiyeh village, early Saturday morning. There were no Israeli casualties.

Two soldiers of the Israel-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) were wounded in an encounter in the same area Friday night.

IDF sources did not immediately identify the slain terrorists, save to say they were Palestinians, not members of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, which is composed mainly of Lebanese Shiites. Hezbollah has been active in and around the security zone recently and took credit for a Katyusha rocket attack on Upper Galilee.

On Sunday, a dissident faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization headed by Naif

Hawatmeh said in Beirut that the three dead men were part of a group it sent to the security zone for an operation against the IDF or the PLO.

Hawatmeh, a Marxist-oriented, pro-Soviet terrorist leader who is also close to Syria, heads the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. It was represented on the PLO executive committee until Hawatmeh broke with PLO chief Yasir Arafat and began stalking PLO personnel as well as Israelis.

SWISS EXPEL THREE LIBYANS SUSPECTED OF PLOTTING TERRORISM

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- Three Libyan visitors were expelled from Switzerland last Thursday after the authorities were alerted by Israeli and other foreign sources that they were planning terrorist acts against Libyan dissidents and other resident aliens in the country.

The three arrived in Switzerland two weeks ago. One, believed to be a senior officer in the Libyan secret service, carried a diplomatic passport. Another, his secretary, carried two forged Venezuelan passports. All stayed at different hotels, which they changed every few days.

According to Swiss law, the suspects could not be arrested, because they had committed no offense on Swiss soil. They are believed to have returned to Libya.

KUPAT HOLIM DOCTORS STRIKE WIDENS

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- Doctors of Kupat Holim, the Histadrut-operated health service used by nearly all working Israelis, have expanded their partial strike, now in its sixth week.

They are demanding "reasonable overtime" pay for working a second shift in operating theaters and outpatient clinics. The Kupat Holim management says their demands are "exaggerated."

So far the strike has forced Kupat Holim to place two of its seven hospitals on reduced schedules one day a week, on a rotating basis. Now the doctors have announced that operating rooms at all hospitals will be closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, except for emergency surgery, and outpatient clinics will be closed Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

ISRAELI ORCHESTRA TOURS AUSCHWITZ

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- The musicians of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, now touring Poland, visited the site of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp Friday, according to reports from Warsaw.

The musicians were accompanied by David Boguchval, the only cantor in Warsaw. He recited the kaddish as the members of the orchestra laid floral wreaths and lighted candles at commemorative plaques.

There was no music. The IPO had planned to play Hatikva, Israel's national anthem. But even that, they decided, was inappropriate at a place where 4 million people, 70 percent of them Jews, were slaughtered by the Nazis.

Zubin Mehta, the IPO's conductor and musical director, said after the somber ceremony, "I'm numb. How many times can you cry? I'm certainly glad there is no concert tonight."

JEWISH JOURNALISTS FORM WORLD NETWORK

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- A new organization aimed at providing closer links among Jewish journalists all over the world was established here over the weekend.

The founding of the International Jewish Media Association was announced at the end of the second International Conference on Jewish Media held at the Van Leer Institute in Jerusalem from November 9-14.

Founding chairman of the new body is Robert Cohn of St. Louis, president of the American Jewish Press Association.

The organization will organize conferences and promote professional contacts and the exchange of articles and commentary columns among Jewish journalists. It will also work closely with the information department of the World Zionist Organization and with the World Union of Jewish Journalists and World Union of Jewish Students.

The WZO information department announced at the same time the establishment of a satellite news network to enable the WZO to update Jewish newspapers on events of Jewish and Zionist interest.

The WZO department was a co-sponsor of last week's Jewish media conference along with the Israel Government Press Office and the World Federation of Jewish Journalists.

Attending the four-day conference were some 100 Israeli journalists and 150 of their colleagues from 30 diaspora countries. Its focus was "The Jewish Media in the Electronic Age."

MAY TAKE A TRAIN, MAY TAKE A PLANE: THOUSANDS EXPECTED FOR DEC. 6 RALLY

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- Planes are already booked solid in many cities and hundreds of busses in New York are chartered to bring Jews to the Mobilization to the Summit march and rally scheduled here Dec. 6.

The demonstrators intend to show their support for Soviet Jewry on the eve of the meetings between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, according to David Harris, the AJCommittee's Washington representative and coordinator of the mobilization.

He said all flights arriving here from Dayton, Ohio, and Kansas City have been booked for that weekend and that Philadelphia and Baltimore are expected to send 10,000 demonstrators each.

Harris spoke to reporters Thursday following a day of briefings in Congress and the administration for about 25 AJCommittee members representing a dozen communities.

They met with Richard Shifter, assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs; Rozanne Ridgway, assistant secretary of state for Europe and Canada; Rep. Dante Fascell (D-Fla.), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee; and Sen. Daniel Moynihan (D-N.Y.).

Theodore Ellenoff, AJCommittee president, said the officials were highly supportive of the mobilization plans, and indicated that the demonstration should not be "modest." Fascell showed strong interest in attending, stating "his passionate belief in human liberties," Ellenoff said.

The rally, to be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. that Sunday, will call on the Soviets to permit the emigration of all Jews who seek it, and to

allow those that want to remain in the Soviet Union to practice their religion without reprisal, he said.

The demonstrators will assemble at the Ellipse, near the White House, starting at 11 a.m. and then march to the Lincoln Memorial.

Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel is honorary chairman of the event. Commitments to attend have been received from leading former refuseniks Natan Sharansky, Ida Nudel and Vladimir and Maria Slepak.

Gorbachev is not expected to arrive here until the following evening. He then is scheduled for talks with Reagan on Dec. 8 and 9 and to leave Washington on Dec. 10.

Scheduling Defended

Ellenoff defended the scheduling of the mobilization before Gorbachev's arrival. He noted that it is being held on a Sunday, which means people can attend without having to take off from work or school.

In addition, he said, the mobilization "will have sufficient reverberations to last all the way through Monday," since Gorbachev's people "read the press, observe the streets, (and) listen to the radio and TV." The summit will mark Gorbachev's first visit to the United States.

The demonstration will not be an anti-Gorbachev protest, but simply a pro-Soviet Jewry event, he noted. "We will carry this out in a dignified and orderly fashion without seeking to disrupt" summit activities, he said.

21 ISRAELI SCHOOL CHILDREN INJURED BY CAR OUT OF CONTROL

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- Twenty-one grade school children were injured Sunday when an out-of-control car ploughed into them as they watched police sappers examine suspicious objects in their schoolyard.

The objects turned out to be harmless and most of the injuries were slight. But two girls required hospitalization.

The incident occurred at the Bialik Comprehensive School in Holon, south of Tel Aviv. The principal called the police after pupils spotted suspicious-looking plastic bags in the schoolyard.

As the bomb squad went to work, the youngsters, fifth and sixth graders, watched from the sidewalk, some distance away. Police cars that had blocked the road began to leave when a car driven by a woman accelerated and swerved onto the sidewalk.

Some of the students were sideswiped by the car while others scrambled to safety. The runaway vehicle slammed into a stone wall, showering the bystanders with splinters.

Police are investigating the accident.

SHAMIR TO SEEK DIALOGUE WITH 'AVERAGE' U.S. JEWS

TEL AVIV, Nov. 15 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir intends to bypass U.S. Jewish leadership during his American visit this week and instead establish direct dialogue with a large number of rank-and-file Jews, Davar reported Friday.

Shamir is said to have recently expressed dissatisfaction with decisions made by several Jewish organizations in support of the Labor Party position in favor of an international conference for Mideast peace.

**JERUSALEM REPORTED CALM SUNDAY
AFTER UNPRECEDENTED VIOLENCE**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- A weekend of violence and vandalism in East Jerusalem, the worst since the Arab and Jewish sectors of the city were reunited 20 years ago, tapered off Sunday.

But the atmosphere was electric with tension. Shops and schools were closed and the potential for new outbursts remained high.

Heavily armed Israel Defense Force troops and border police patrolled the nearly deserted rain-sodden streets. They were littered with debris and shattered glass, testimony to two days of unprecedented violence during which Arab mobs attacked shops and businesses, including the East Jerusalem branches of Israeli banks, as well as a police station.

At least four police officers were injured in the unrest and some 60 Arabs were detained.

Sunday's calm was only relative and due in part to winter storms that kept most people indoors. Banks reopened, but there were few customers.

Meanwhile, the West Bank and Gaza Strip bristled with unrest. Arab youths continued to erect roadblocks and used them as ramparts to hurl stones and gasoline bombs at Israeli vehicles.

More Trouble In The Territories

Some of the main trouble spots were the Askar and Fara refugee camps near Nablus, both under curfew. A Jewish woman was slightly injured by glass splinters when rocks struck the bus she was riding.

A Molotov cocktail was thrown at a border police patrol in Kabatiya in the Samaria district. An IDF officer fired at the attackers, wounding one who was hospitalized. Another gasoline bomb was thrown at an IDF patrol in Hebron, south of Jerusalem.

In Gaza, two local youths were wounded in clashes with security forces. A bus transporting Arab workers from Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip to their jobs in Israel was set on fire.

But the violence that turned parts of the Gaza Strip and West Bank into battlefields over most of the past 10 days was less of a shock than that which erupted in East Jerusalem.

The disturbances began Friday with a small demonstration on the Temple Mount after Moslem prayers. The protesters tried to approach Commerce and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon's new residence in the Old City's Moslem Quarter, but were dispersed by police.

Security officials sent reinforcements into East Jerusalem in anticipation of trouble Saturday. But they and Mayor Teddy Kollek later admitted they were taken by surprise by the scope of the disturbances.

Groups of youths erected barriers of stones, garbage cans and burning tires on the main streets. Saladin Street, the main artery of East Jerusalem, was impassable.

Mobs hurled rocks at the plate glass windows of the Bank Leumi branch. They broke into Barclay's Discount Bank, smashing computers and

littering the floor with torn checks and other papers. Police used tear gas against the rioters, but it dispersed them only temporarily.

Police Station Stormed

One group of demonstrators, showing unusual daring, stormed the police station in the Al-Azaria neighborhood with rocks.

Security sources, who insist Palestinian nationalist elements are behind the disturbances, expect the unrest to continue at least until Jan. 1, the anniversary of the founding of Al-Fatah, the terrorist wing of the Palestine Liberation Organization. These elements are interested in keeping the violence alive, the sources said, in order to do maximum damage to Israel in the eyes of world opinion.

But Premier Yitzhak Shamir maintained that the wave of violence is almost over, in an interview published Sunday in Yediot Achronot.

The Cabinet met Sunday for its regular weekly session, but no official communique was issued. None was expected until after Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had returned from his visit to South America Sunday night.

Peres and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was in the United States last week, were criticized by Likud ministers for not cutting their overseas visits short in view of events.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES:**EMERGING PATTERNS OF ARAB UNREST
HAVE ISRAELI OFFICIALS CONCERNED**

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- Israelis pondering the unprecedented wave of Arab violence have discerned new elements and patterns that are causing them deep concern for the future.

The latest and most serious of these was the spread of rioting to East Jerusalem over the weekend, on a scale as bad as any in the West Bank or Gaza Strip, though no lives were lost.

Second, there is the real threat of sympathetic unrest among Israel's normally quiescent Arab population, whose expressions of solidarity with their fellows in the administered territories have already been heard.

Finally, and possibly most dangerous in the long term, is the religious fervor that seems to have joined Palestinian nationalism as the driving force behind the disturbances.

Although Premier Yitzhak Shamir has consistently played down the significance of these events, many in his own political camp view the situation with alarm.

Violence and unrest are not new phenomena in the territories Israel captured during the 1967 Six-Day War. Always simmering, they usually erupt on dates significant to Palestinians -- Nov. 2, the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration; Nov. 29, the anniversary of the United Nations resolution to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states; and Jan. 1, the anniversary of the founding of Al Fatah, the terrorist branch of Yasir Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization. The unrest usually abates within a few days after these anniversaries.

This month, the rioting has been almost continuous. Fierce confrontations occurred in the streets of East Jerusalem between young Palestinians and Israeli police. It even spread to Bethlehem, the only major town in the West Bank that until now was spared the convulsions elsewhere in the territory.

Timing Compounds Problem

The timing, just days before Christmas, compounds the gravity of the situation. Arab rioters apparently gave little thought to the massive damage they were doing themselves with respect to tourism and pilgrimages to the seat of the Christian faith.

But the worst fears of Israelis were realized in Jerusalem, the proud capital of Israel, its showpiece to the world. "We have had commercial strikes and demonstrations here before, but nothing like this," Mayor Teddy Kollek noted.

The outbreak in the Arab sector of the city appears to have had two converging causes: the contagion of violence from the Gaza Strip--some sources said the rioting was led by youths from Gaza -- and the high-profile move by Commerce and Industry Minister Ariel Sharon into an apartment in the Moslem Quarter of the Old City on Dec. 15, the first night of Chanukah.

Sharon insisted his move would only enhance security for Jews in the Old City and expressed hope it would encourage other Jews to move into the Moslem Quarter.

Many politicians, including members of his own Herut faction, disagreed and called his move provocative. Mayor Kollek said at the time it would raise tensions in the city -- and his prediction proved to be an understatement.

The latest controversy surrounding Sharon underscores the deep divisions in Israel. The right wing is more determined than ever to hold on to the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The left is more convinced than ever of the need to reach a settlement that would divest Israel of a hostile, bitter, resentful and ever more violent Arab population in the territories.

Protests For Peace

Thousands of supporters of the dovish Peace Now movement braved rain and cold Saturday night to demonstrate outside the Tel Aviv museum. They chanted, "Give peace a chance now," "An end to the violence" and "Begin peace negotiations now."

Posters at the rally said peace was preferable to the territories. Others, displayed at an earlier Communist Party march, called for "two states for two people." A large detachment of police kept counterdemonstrators representing the militant Betar youth movement from disrupting the gathering.

Diplomatic sources in Jerusalem said the disturbances there over the past two days were "directed from above." They may be right, in a spiritual as well as literal sense.

Israeli experts have noted the growing role of the Islamic faith among Arabs in the territories and in Israel proper. The "return to religion" has been an important feature of Palestinian life for some years. Now it seems to be merging with nationalist motifs.

It is an ironic development, because Israeli policy up to now has been to encourage religious groups, especially in the volatile Gaza Strip, while cracking down hard on purely nationalist and politically radical elements in the Arab high

schools and universities. The religious leaders, the Israelis believed, were conservative and, therefore, less hostile.

Mandate From The Minarets

But conservatism has become indistinguishable from Islamic fundamentalism. The lines between religion and nationalism are fading. The PLO flag flew from the minarets of mosques in Gaza during the worst of the rioting last week.

The muezzins -- those who call the faithful to prayers -- used their loud-hailers to rally Palestinian youths to the barricades with their rocks and gasoline bombs. The calls to holy war continued until the IDF cut off the mosques' electric supply.

The same intermingling of religious and nationalist sentiment was evident at the Balata refugee camp near Nablus. There a mother, mourning her eldest son, who was shot to death by the IDF last week, declared that "Ibrahim has joined the ranks of the martyrs. . . Even if we lose all our sons, the struggle will continue."

The other troubling question -- what will happen among Israel's 750,000 Arab citizens--may be answered Monday. A one-day general strike has been called, a demonstrative act of solidarity with the Palestinians in the administered territories.

This will be an unprecedented act of vicarious protest. It remains to be seen whether the feelings of solidarity have penetrated more deeply than a formal stoppage of work, services and schools might indicate.

Some Israelis believe there has been a blurring of identities in the minds of Israeli Arabs -- especially the young generation -- who may see themselves less as Israeli and more at one with the Palestinians across the "Green Line"--the imaginary demarcation between Israel and the territories. And if this is true, Israelis wonder, does it contain the same propensity for violence?

The Reaction Abroad

Finally, Israelis are deeply worried by reactions abroad -- from friend and foe alike--which have become increasingly critical of Israeli behavior since the rioting began in the Gaza Strip early this month.

The Palestinians are making the maximum possible political capital of the unrest. Their propaganda machine has had a field day and Israelis believe the PLO wants to prolong the violence even though the dead and wounded are mostly Palestinian youths.

In Washington, the Council of Presidents of National Arab-American Organizations met Thursday with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead and Richard Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near East and South Asian affairs. They urged the United States to take concrete action against Israeli actions to protest its handling of the unrest in the territories.

The governments of the United States, Britain, France and West Germany expressed their displeasure to Israel last week.

On Friday, the 12 member states of the European Economic Community called on the Israeli authorities "to secure the protection of the inhabitants in the occupied territories in conformity with international law and the standards in the human rights field."

That message followed a resolution to the same effect adopted by the Parliament of Europe in Strasbourg last Thursday.

**CONGRESSIONAL CONFEREES AGREE
ON AID TO ISRAEL, DEBT REFINANCING**
By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- House and Senate negotiators agreed Thursday to provide Israel with \$3 billion in foreign aid in fiscal years 1988 and 1989, and adopted the Senate's foreign aid debt-restructuring plan, which could save Israel \$2 billion over two decades.

The aid level to Israel was never in doubt. As was the case in 1987, Israel is designated to receive \$1.8 billion in military aid and \$1.2 billion in economic support -- all in the form of grants.

The full Senate and House still have to vote on the two provisions, which are contained in the fiscal 1988 "catch-all" spending bill. A vote was expected early this week.

The Senate negotiators convinced their House counterparts to adopt the foreign debt plan, which the Senate approved by voice vote Dec. 11. The Senate plan was co-sponsored by Sens. Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) and Robert Kasten (R-Wis.), chairman and ranking minority member of the Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee.

The plan allows private banks to refinance at lower interest rates all high-interest foreign aid loans. Israel currently has the highest outstanding debt in high-interest loans, roughly \$5.45 billion. The plan does not affect an additional \$5 billion in low-interest loans that Israel owes the United States.

**FIGHT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN USSR
WILL CONTINUE, SAYS JEWISH LEADER**
By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- An agreement endorsed Oct. 30 by President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev had importance beyond setting up the recently completed summit meeting, according to Morris Abram, chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

"This was the first time the issue of human rights has ever been on the agenda of a summit meeting, and the general secretary signed it," Abram told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency last week between meetings convened to evaluate the success of the massive Dec. 6 Soviet Jewry rally in Washington and the subsequent summit.

Abram, who also chairs the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, is convinced the Reagan administration will not allow the Soviets to forget that signature or others on international documents that endorse the right of citizens to emigrate from their own country.

He said Gorbachev "took note" when Reagan stressed to him that the Soviet Jewry movement was a continuing "American commitment" and pressed home the strength of the demonstration.

Abram said he, too, reminded Soviet officials of "what was represented on that stage" -- major governmental figures, representatives of church groups, civil rights leaders. One of the Soviets "turned his back on me, infuriated," he added.

Even more important, Abram said, was "the tremendous impact on the Jewish population of the Soviet Union. The Voice of America was broadcasting that rally live into the Soviet Union. . . and it had an unbelievable kind of impact on the Jews of the Soviet Union."

Likewise, said Abram, the rally had an "immeasurable unifying effect on American Jews, particularly on the youth." Added NCSJ spokes-

man Jerry Strober, "It may mean the difference between assimilation and identification."

Not Only Reunification

Where to go from here? Abram wants to keep up the fight. "Our movement should not be directed only towards family reunification," he said.

"Our goal is to keep the Soviet Union to its obligation under the Helsinki Accords" to allow free emigration.

The recent emigration of well-known refuseniks "should not dampen the Soviet Jewry movement," said Abram.

"We must not come down from this high, but move forward to new highs. We must use the new contacts in cultural exchange and trade."

Abram said he did not favor such exchanges, but also did not advocate boycotts.

He stressed, rather, that "every American should do what the president has done, and have no contact, no matter how friendly, without raising these issues in a profound and determined way. That's the American responsibility."

He said he was disturbed that American business leaders cajoled Gorbachev with ideas for U.S.-Soviet trade.

"They cannot operate in isolation from the context of American principle. . . There can never be normalization of our relationship with the Soviet Union in any area until the Soviet Union normalizes the human rights pacts and shows a decent respect for mankind," he contended.

He asserted that the codification of emigration regulations of last January is "the end of it" when it comes to Soviet permission to emigrate. Of the approximately 8,000 Jews who left the Soviet Union this past year, only a small number were known refuseniks, he noted.

Main Refuseniks Remain

This trend indicates two things to Abram: that emigration is possible without strict compliance with written regulations and that refuseniks, many of them long-term, remain waiting while others leave.

It is impossible to count accurately the number of refuseniks, agreed Abram and Strober. The names of many refuseniks do not appear on the computer lists kept by Soviet Jewry groups, and other Soviet Jews may fear to apply.

Abram urged "every Jew in the Soviet Union who wants to leave to apply without invitation, regardless of family elsewhere, to exercise the rights that were guaranteed by his own country."

He disputed Gorbachev's statement during a recent interview with NBC-TV anchor Tom Brokaw that emigration was creating a "brain drain."

The NCSJ chairman emphasized that many highly trained professionals who had applied to emigrate subsequently lost their jobs.

Abram also stressed that the Soviet Jewry movement was as interested in the religious and cultural lives of Jews remaining in the Soviet Union as in those who wish to emigrate.

But he dismissed efforts to import small numbers of prayer books and Bibles and to set up kosher restaurants as "tidbits" that deceptively attempt to portray the Soviets as compliant with Jewish needs.

"If they really want to revive Jewish life in the Soviet Union, let them do what the Romanians do. Let them form Jewish federations, Jewish schools, Jewish clubs," he stated.

NO JEWISH CONSENSUS ON WHETHER TO INCLUDE CONDOMS IN AIDS EDUCATION

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- As Catholic theologians debate whether to approve instruction about the use of condoms in Catholic educational programs on AIDS, American Jewish religious leaders are clarifying their own movements' positions on the issue.

At the Dec. 16 monthly executive meeting of the Rabbinical Council of America, for instance, rabbis representing mainstream Orthodox Judaism passed a resolution that advocates monogamy in marriage and abstinence from premarital sex, rather than the use of condoms, to prevent the spread of acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

Condoms are "definitely against Jewish law," according to Rabbi Binyamin Walfish, executive vice president of RCA, who said the resolution would instead focus on the "positive aspects of faithfulness and fidelity."

By contrast, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the central congregational body of Reform Judaism, while also advocating abstinence and monogamy as both Jewish values and preventive measures against AIDS, recommends that educators "talk about condom use and provide (age-appropriate) instruction on how to use a condom properly," according to Dr. Boris O'Mansky, chairman of UAHC's Committee on AIDS.

Similarly, a policy paper issued earlier this month by the United States Catholic Conference said providing information about condoms could be permitted if presented within the context of Roman Catholic teachings that advocated "abstinence outside of marriage and fidelity within marriage, as well as the avoidance of intravenous drug use."

Some Catholic bishops, including New York's Cardinal John O'Connor, have voiced their opposition to the policy paper.

No Central Jewish Body

American Jewry has no body analogous to the Catholic Conference, the administrative arm of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, which is responsible for all Roman Catholic teachings. The Synagogue Council of America includes Orthodox, Conservative and Reform representation, but only plays a coordinating role and does not speak for the Reconstructionist and some ultra-Orthodox movements within Judaism.

Thus within and among the various Jewish branches, there are no expectations of the kind of theological consensus sought by the Catholic clergy.

According to David Zweibel, director of government affairs of Agudath Israel of America, strict interpretation of Jewish law forbids the use of condoms because of biblical injunctions against the "destruction of seed," or onanism. (Exceptions have been allowed by some rabbis, said Zweibel, when a marriage partner had tested positive for AIDS.)

Thus Agudath Israel, a congregational body of strictly Orthodox Jews, "does not teach about (condom use) and makes no bones about it," said Zweibel.

"We stress abstinence outside of marriage and that drug abuse is not healthy. Our type of education contributes to the type of lifestyle least susceptible to the disease," he said.

Zweibel pointed out that the New York State

Department of Education mandates instruction about AIDS in both public and private schools. But because the regulations call for instruction "consistent with community standards," Zweibel said that Agudath Israel was able to support them.

Included At Orthodox School

Rabbi Haskel Lookstein, immediate past president of the New York Board of Rabbis and principal of the Ramaz School, an Orthodox secondary school in Manhattan, said that students there are informed about the uses of condoms in a sex ethics course taken during the sophomore year.

"From a Jewish and a health point of view one should abstain from premarital intercourse. But one should make available the information that if one is going to do that, a condom is better than nothing," said Lookstein.

The United Synagogue of America, representing 850 Conservative organizations around the world, recently adopted a resolution on AIDS that "goes counter to what the cardinal (O'Connor) believes," according to Rabbi Benjamin Kreitman, executive vice president.

The resolution, adopted at United Synagogue's biennial convention in November, calls for congregations to "convey whatever information is available for (AIDS) prevention," said Kreitman. "Without endorsing their use, congregations should make available information about condoms."

Jewish groups are unanimous, however, in expressing concern about the treatment of AIDS sufferers. The Union for Traditional Conservative Judaism, for instance, recently issued a "responsum" (Jewish legal opinion) on the subject, saying that people with AIDS "are entitled to full medical treatment and the unstinting compassion of the Jewish community."

Non-denominational Jewish education organizations, meanwhile, are pulling together AIDS information and allowing educators to make their own choices as to whether or not to include condom education in classroom instruction.

The Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education is readying a lesson plan and bibliography for Jewish educators, and the Jewish Education Service of North America makes resource material on AIDS available to federations and education bureaus through its National Educational Resource Center.

DEBATE OVER FASSBINDER PLAY CONTINUES

By Henrietta Boas

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 20 (JTA) -- Education Minister Willem Deetman wants to know why the Amsterdam Theatrical Academy insisted on producing a reputedly anti-Semitic play by Rainer Werner Fassbinder in face of angry protests by Dutch Jews and many non-Jews last month. He has ordered an investigation.

Paul Sonke, director of the academy, wants to know why the play, "Garbage, the City and Death," aroused such fierce emotions among Jews, none of whom had seen it. He has asked for a "scientific study" of the forces at work.

Deetman acted after officials of his ministry met with Sonke and Johan Doesburg, a former student at the academy who directed the play as his graduate project. They had just returned from Copenhagen, where the Fassbinder play is being performed without a murmur of protest.

**ISRAELI ARABS SUCCEED WITH STRIKE
AS RIOTS SPREAD THROUGHOUT ISRAEL**
By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The general strike called by Israel's Arab citizens in solidarity with their fellow Arabs in the administered territories was virtually 100 percent effective Monday.

The strike shut down Arab shops, businesses, manufacturing plants, schools, municipalities and all public services. It spread to East Jerusalem, whose Arab residents are not Israeli citizens, to Arab villages near the capital and the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

It reportedly was joined by Druze residents on the Golan Heights who heretofore remained aloof to such demonstrations.

The strike was accompanied by scattered incidents of rock-throwing and tire-burning, some in the heart of the country. Security forces used tear gas to disperse violent demonstrators. In the West Bank, three Palestinians were killed and one was wounded in confrontations with Israeli security forces.

Haaretz reported Monday that leading Likud figures discussed the possibility of dissolving the national committee of local Arab leaders because of the general strike and to withdraw financial assistance to Arab municipalities that participated in it. About 750,000 Arabs are Israeli citizens.

The West Bank and Gaza Strip parallel strike shut down all activity Monday. Eighty Palestinians were detained as rioting broke out anew.

An Arab youth was killed in the West Bank town of Jenin when police opened fire to extricate an Israeli civilian who was being pelted with rocks. Two Arabs were shot to death in the West Bank village of Tubas, where soldiers came under a hail of rocks and gasoline bombs.

Israel Defense Force Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron visited West Bank trouble spots Monday to appeal for restraint. He said the task of the security forces was to prevent casualties and the destruction of property. He warned that rioters were playing into the hands of extremists.

Police Mobilized

In Israel proper, more than 2,500 regular and border police, reinforced by the Israel Defense Force, patrolled potential trouble spots. All police leaves had been canceled in anticipation of the strike.

The main center of unrest in Israel was Nazareth, in the Galilee, the largest Arab city. Rioting erupted there following a "Peace Day" moment of silence in memory of Palestinians killed in the territories in recent days.

Several hundred Arab youths hurled rocks at the local police station and at civilian and police vehicles. Similar disturbances broke out in the Arab town of Umm el-Fahm, just off the Afuleh-Hadera highway, when a peaceful rally quickly degenerated into a riot. Police dispersed 3,000 rock-throwing youths. Two policemen were slightly injured.

Other disturbances were reported in Lod, near Ben-Gurion International Airport, and in Jaffa, which is part of the Tel Aviv municipality.

Meanwhile, Mayor Elias Freij of Bethlehem

confirmed Monday that he canceled the Christmas reception traditionally held by his municipality for visiting dignitaries, including senior Israeli political and military figures. It was the first time in 20 years that the event was canceled.

"There is a complete commercial strike in Bethlehem and neighboring townships. There is no public transportation and most residents and merchants are staying home. There is a great sorrow, anger and tension in the town," he told reporters. However, the annual Christmas religious observances in Manger Square will be held as in past years, Freij said.

News that the Golan Druze decided to join the general strike was reported by Al Hamishmar. The announcement was made by loudspeaker in the four Druze villages in the heights. All residents were urged not to open their shops or go to their jobs in Israel.

The Golan Heights, captured from Syria in the 1967 Six Day War, were formally annexed by Israel in 1981. Relations with the Golan Druze, many of whom have families in Syrian territory, have been generally friendly. This is the first time the Druze, who are not Arabs and whose mysterious religion derives in part from Islam, have acted in solidarity with Israeli Arabs.

**U.S. EXPECTED TO VOTE FOR U.N.
DECREE CONDEMNING ISRAEL ON GAZA**
By Yitzhak Rabi

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The United States is expected to vote for a Security Council draft resolution that "strongly deplores" Israeli troops for shooting at civilians in the administered territories, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency learned Monday.

The vote, originally scheduled for Monday night, was postponed at least to Tuesday, according to diplomatic sources here.

The Arabs reportedly have agreed to U.S. requests to meaningfully scale back their original draft resolution condemning the Israeli response to Palestinian rioting in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

American diplomatic sources do not comment on impending votes.

The major changes include the softening of the language and the dropping of a request that the United Nations send a special representative to examine the situation in the territories.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency has obtained a copy of the draft resolution, which diplomats said may still be changed prior to the vote. As of press time Monday, the major operative parts of the draft resolution were that the Security Council:

"1. Strongly deplores those policies and practices of Israel, the occupying power, which violate the human rights of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, in particular the opening of fire by the Israeli army, resulting in the killing and wounding of defenseless Palestinian civilians.

"2. Reaffirms that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, is applicable to the Palestinian and other Arab territories occu-

pied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem.

"3. Calls once again upon Israel, the occupying power, to abide immediately by the Geneva Convention and to desist forthwith from its policies and practices that are in violation of the provisions of the convention.

"4. Stresses the urgent need to reach a just, durable and peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"5. Requests the secretary general to examine the present situation in the occupied territories by all means available to him, as well as submit a report no later than 20 January 1988 on measures necessary to ensure the safety of and protection of the Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation."

EGYPT-ISRAEL TIES STRAINED OVER ISRAELI GAZA REACTION

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Israel's relations with Egypt appear shaken over Egyptian concern about Palestinian rioting in the administered territories and Israeli counter-measures.

The friction was further aggravated by a remark attributed to Israel's ambassador to the United Nations, Benjamin Netanyahu, considered derogatory of Egypt. Israel's ambassador to Egypt, Moshe Sasson, was summoned to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry over the weekend to receive a formal protest, which he conveyed to Jerusalem.

Netanyahu reportedly said that Egypt uses tougher measures against demonstrators than Israel does. It is considered likely he will be reprimanded by the Israeli Foreign Ministry, though he was strongly defended Monday by Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

Sasson reported earlier that he has not seen such an anti-Israel atmosphere in Egypt since the 1982 massacre of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps by Phalangist forces. The area was overseen by Israeli troops.

The Egyptians claim the Israelis are acting toward Palestinians in the territories as they did toward those in the West Beirut refugee camps.

Prof. Asher Ovadia, head of the Israeli Academic Center in Cairo, was quoted by an Haaretz correspondent Monday as saying that "If the deterioration in the territories continues and Israel's response does not change, this will undoubtedly have a negative effect on relations between the two countries."

Favors Sending Emissary

He said he sees no such danger at the moment, but suggested that "sending a senior minister (to Cairo) would certainly contribute to improving the atmosphere and the attitude toward Israel in Egypt."

He regretted that a proposal to send Ezer Weizman, a Laborite minister, was rejected by Shamir last week. Weizman has long maintained close diplomatic and personal relations with Egyptian leaders.

Serving as acting foreign minister last week while Foreign Minister Shimon Peres was abroad, Weizman met with the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, Mohammed Bassiouny, who told him the situation in the territories has produced a difficult atmosphere in Cairo and expressed great concern.

Peres said Sunday night that "we must tell the Egyptians, the Jordanians and Israeli Arabs that most of the incidents in Judea, Samaria and

Gaza were initiated and executed by those who opposed and continue to oppose the continuation of the peace process."

Last week, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy warned Peres in New York that as a result of its rapprochement with the Arab world, Egypt would distance itself from Israel. Most Arab countries that broke diplomatic relations with Cairo because of its 1979 peace treaty with Israel restored them following the Arab summit conference in Amman last October.

Meanwhile, Haaretz reported Monday that the Foreign Ministry is preparing to reprimand Netanyahu for his remarks, considered offensive by Egypt. The reprimand will be conveyed by Yehezkel Barnea, director of the ministry's International Organizations Division, after further consultations with Avraham Tamir, director-general of the Foreign Ministry, Haaretz said.

Shamir, addressing the Jeane Kirkpatrick Forum at Tel Aviv University Monday, said he hoped there would be no reprimand. He praised Netanyahu, a fellow member of Herut, as "the most important, successful and most brilliant representative Israel had in the international arena" and said he should be encouraged and supported in full.

SHAMIR HIDES MEDIA COVERAGE OF UNREST IN THE TERRITORIES

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Premier Yitzhak Shamir declared Monday that Israel would continue to enforce law and order in the administered territories by all appropriate means, regardless of its image abroad, and implied that the world news media could not be trusted to report events objectively.

Shamir addressed the third International Conference of the Jeane Kirkpatrick Forum for Public Leadership and Public Policy at Tel Aviv University. He blamed the current disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on Palestine Liberation Organization terrorists.

"We shall continue to impose security and public safety (in the territories) even if there are in the area correspondents and cameramen covering every step, and even if, as everybody knows, it is not always possible to rely on the media to act responsibly and not emphasize the negative out of all proportion," Shamir said.

The premier was apparently referring to the daily television films and newspaper photographs of Israel Defense Force troops in full battle gear confronting young Palestinians armed with rocks and gasoline bombs.

By all accounts, Israel's image has suffered its worst damage since the Lebanon war in 1982. At that time, too, many Israelis and friends of Israel abroad assailed the news media for alleged bias in its reporting.

'Freedom Fighters'

According to Shamir, the terrorists seek to appear to the public as "freedom fighters" by covering up the truth. But Israel will not abandon its democratic government and way of life, even if it must pay a heavy price, he said.

The premier also said the terrorist activities that the PLO has been promoting in the territories should disqualify it from representing the Palestinian people in any negotiations for peace.

The PLO's "aim and method of operation has removed it from any rational equation, and no

serious international political or media body interested in a solution (to the Middle East conflict) should pay its respect," he said.

Shamir rejected proposals to reimpose military law in the centers of rioting and unrest. "I don't think Israel today can move backwards. What might have been good in the 1950s is not suitable for today. Such an idea is not on the government agenda at present," he said.

The Jeane Kirkpatrick Forum is named in honor of the former United States ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, who serves as its honorary chairman.

Kirkpatrick delivered the opening address Sunday in which she stressed that the only path to Arab-Israeli peace is through direct negotiations without the "umbrella" of an international conference. The same position is held by Shamir.

The theme of the current conference is "Democracies in Action -- Israel at 40, the United States Constitution's Bicentennial." Shamir spoke on the subject "Israel and the United States: The Natural Alliance."

ARABS URGE EUROPEANS TO CONDEMN ISRAELI HANDLING OF GAZA VIOLENCE

By David Kantor and Tamar Levy

BONN, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Arab ambassadors recently urged most of the 12 European Economic Community member states to take stronger diplomatic and political action against Israel for its response to rioting by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

At the same time, as the violence escalated, increased media attention to these events seems to have turned European opinion sharply against Israel. According to commentators here, Israel's image has not been so badly damaged since the Lebanon war in 1982.

In this atmosphere, some of the Arab envoys seem to be having an impact. The Israeli Embassy protested the description by two ranking officials of the West German Foreign Ministry of the situation in the Israeli-administered territories.

The Bonn government did not temper its criticism. According to an official spokesman, the feeling in the high levels of government is that Israel must consider ending its occupation of the territories. West Germany assumes the rotating chairmanship of the EEC on Jan. 1.

In Bern, the Conference of Arab Ambassadors announced Monday that it has asked the Swiss government and the International Committee of the Red Cross to "assume its juridical and humanitarian responsibilities and put pressure on Israel to end its acts of repression."

Arab envoys went to Copenhagen to protest that the EEC reaction so far was not strong enough. Denmark currently chairs the EEC. The Danes pointed out that the EEC on Friday formally called on Israel "to secure the protection of the inhabitants of the occupied territories in conformity with international law and the standards of the human rights field." That message followed a resolution to the same effect adopted by the Parliament of Europe in Strasbourg last Thursday.

Meanwhile, the disturbances in the administered territories, and more recently in East Jerusalem, have replaced the Persian Gulf war as the focus of European media attention in the Middle East.

Belgian television, for example, which has no permanent correspondent in Israel, dispatched

reporters and camera crews to Jerusalem last Friday. Overall, European coverage has become more detailed and aggressive of late, injuring any image of Israel as a peaceful nation seeking accommodation with its Arab neighbors.

PROFESSOR ALEXANDER LERNER RECEIVES PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE

By Susan Birnbaum and Mark Joffe

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Professor Alexander Lerner of Moscow, an internationally known scientist and one of the longest-term refuseniks left in the Soviet Union, was told Monday he could emigrate.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency was notified of the news by the National Conference on Soviet Jewry and the Long Island Committee for Soviet Jewry, who spoke to Lerner by telephone.

Lerner received a phone call Monday from the OVIR emigration bureau in Moscow saying he had permission to leave for Israel. Lerner's son, Vladimir, and Vladimir's wife and child also were told they could leave.

Lerner, 74, known for his work in the field of cybernetics, has been waiting since 1971 to go to Israel. He has been refused permission to emigrate several times on "state secrecy" grounds, despite the fact that his work supervisor testified to the KGB that he was not privy to state secrets.

Earlier this year, Lerner was among a list of refuseniks the Soviets said would never be allowed to leave.

The author of 168 scientific works, Lerner was charged with "espionage and treason" in an open letter published in Izvestia on March 4, 1977. He replied, "I was never connected in any form with any secret service of any foreign state."

Prior to applying to emigrate, Lerner had traveled to the West to participate in scientific symposiums. Later, after he was refused an exit visa, the international scientific community carried on a vigorous campaign on his behalf.

Daughter In Israel

Lerner is expected to join his daughter, Sonya Lerner Levin, who emigrated in 1973, in Rehovot, where for years he has been promised a research position at the Weizmann Institute of Science.

Lerner had two daughters, ages 3 and 5, who were killed with their grandparents at Babi Yar in 1941, when the Jews were rounded up. His wife, Judith, died in 1981.

The soft-spoken scientist is regarded by many as the senior spokesman of the Moscow Soviet Jewry movement and his comparatively lavish apartment (a testament to his one-time membership in the Soviet Academy of Sciences) is a popular stopover for members of Congress and foreign leaders visiting the Soviet Union.

During the 1970s, Lerner was active in organizing professional seminars for Soviet Jewish scientists who had lost their jobs when they applied to emigrate.

In recent years, he has devoted much of his time to painting and some of his works have been sold in Israel. A portrait of Natan Sharansky, which Lerner painted when he was known to the world as a prisoner of Zion named Anatoly, hangs on the walls of Lerner's study.

Speaking by phone Monday to Lynn Singer, executive director of the Long Island Council,

Lerner said he was preparing to leave and hoped to be in Israel within a month. He asked that "special thanks be given to everyone who worked on my behalf. I am looking forward to being in Israel and hope to come to the United States as quickly as possible to personally thank everyone," he said excitedly.

On hearing of Lerner's permission, National Conference Chairman Morris Abram said, "In finally granting the distinguished professor permission to join his daughter in Israel, the Soviet Union is merely living up to one of its human rights obligations under the Helsinki Accords and other international agreements.

"Let us hope that Soviet authorities will now also turn their attention to the many other 'secrecy' cases which must be resolved if the USSR is to be counted among the civilized nations of the world," he said.

BOESKY TO STUDY AT JTS AFTER COMPLETING JAIL TERM

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Ivan Boesky, sentenced Friday to three years in prison for his role in illegal insider trading, will likely change his entire life's focus during his years of incarceration and probably the years following. The former Wall Street arbitrageur enrolled as a master's candidate at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Earlier this year, Boesky attended classes at the seminary, where his teachers and classmates noted his interest in his studies and his questions about Jewish law. He did not give interviews while attending the seminary, which is the higher learning institution of the Conservative movement of Judaism.

The seminary indicated that Boesky would not have to re-enroll after completing his jail term. Despite rumors, JTS also denied that Boesky is enrolled in the seminary's rabbinical studies program.

Prior to his indictment on a federal charge of conspiring to "make false, fictitious and fraudulent statements" to the federal government, Boesky was a very high-profile member of the Jewish philanthropic community in New York and had been a member of the JTS board and president of the JTS library corporation. The day before the Security and Exchange Commission announced it was fining Boesky a record \$100 million, he informed JTS that he was resigning from the two positions. He withdrew his name and that of his wife, Seema, from the library, for which he had reportedly pledged \$2 million.

Boesky also resigned from the boards of UJA-Federation of New York, Yeshiva University and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. He was a member of the UJA-Federation's council of overseers and campaign leadership, and had twice chaired the UJA-Federation joint campaign.

In addition, Boesky served as special adviser on Jewish affairs to the Republican National Jewish Coalition. He also withdrew a pledge of \$750,000 for the planned Center for Jewish Life at Princeton University.

Boesky pleaded guilty in April 1987 to a single conspiracy charge after agreeing to cooperate with the federal investigation of illegal insider trading, permitting recordings to be made of his conversations with senior investment figures. Boesky's role in the illegal insider trading was revealed in November 1986.

Boesky is the son of a Russian Jewish immigrant who owned a chain of delicatessens in Detroit. He was a child entrepreneur by the age of 13, when he drove an ice cream truck around Detroit without a driver's license.

In the early 1970s, while with the arbitrage department of Edwards and Hanly in New York, Boesky had another skirmish with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which fined him \$10,000 and censured him for violating a securities trading regulation.

ISRAEL, GERMANY TO SHARE RESEARCH By David Kantor

BONN, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The governments of West Germany and Israel will jointly undertake 28 research projects beginning next year, mainly in scientific fields, it was announced here last week.

The projects in medicine, irrigation, agriculture, physics, literature and other areas are the outcome of a 1986 agreement between Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the then-prime minister of Israel, Shimon Peres.

They established the German-Israeli Joint Research Foundation and each committed his government to make available 75 million marks (about \$47 million) for grants in research.

A committee of the foundation met here to decide on the projects. Heinz Risenhuber, the minister for research, presided. The foundation's constitution calls for projects of interest to both countries. When fully funded, by 1990, the foundation is expected to distribute some 10 million marks (about \$6 million) a year in research grants.

The work will be done mainly in Israel, with German scientists or scientific institutions participating. Observers here noted that this will amount to channelling more financial assistance from West Germany to Israel. The Bonn government now makes available 140 million marks a year in long-term development credits to Israel.

The amount has not been increased since 15 years ago, when Israel and West Germany established diplomatic relations.

SLA REPULSE HEZBOLLAH ATTACK By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- The Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army repelled a series of attacks by Hezbollah in the southern Lebanon security zone Monday. Five attackers were killed and one SLA soldier was wounded, military sources here reported.

Hezbollah, which is Arabic for "Party of God," is the militia of pro-Iranian Shiite extremists in southern Lebanon.

According to the SLA, one of its positions on the northern boundary of the security zone came under attack by mortars and rocket-propelled grenades. Scores of Hezbollah guerrillas attempted to storm it but were driven off without penetrating the outer defenses.

Hezbollah later accused the Israel Defense Force of firing on ambulances evacuating the wounded. The IDF said it fired at enemy transports bringing reinforcements to the scene of the attack.

According to the SLA, its forces have killed 12 guerrillas and wounded at least 20 in the past four days. The SLA, commanded by Gen. Antoine Lahad, patrols the security zone jointly with the IDF.

**AS UNREST IN TERRITORIES SUBSIDES,
ISRAEL MULLS RELATIONS WITH ARABS**

By Gil Sedan and David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 22 (JTA) -- Relative calm descended on Israel Tuesday as Arab rioting subsided and Arab shops, businesses, factories and schools reopened and municipalities again provided public services following a general strike Monday by Israel's Arab citizens.

But Israelis are clearly disturbed by the almost total shut-down of the Arab sector for 24 hours and the scattered incidents of violence that accompanied the strike. Politicians and political analysts here were assessing the effects of the strike and considering the increasingly strained relations with Egypt after almost two weeks of Palestinian rioting in the administered territories.

The relative calm was attributed partly to bad weather and partly to Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin's declaration that the security forces will use "every available legal means" to enforce law and order in Israel and the administered territories.

Rabin, who returned from a visit to the United States late Monday night, Tuesday visited the Gaza Strip, where disturbances continued. The Israel Defense Force reportedly killed another Palestinian in Gaza and two more died in hospitals from wounds received in earlier clashes with soldiers. The unofficial death toll of Palestinians in the administered territories is now 22.

The IDF chief of staff, Gen. Dan Shomron, told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Tuesday that 19 Arabs were killed and 164 wounded in clashes with security forces since Dec. 9.

Some See Radicalization

Israeli Jews are troubled mainly by the powerful demonstration of solidarity with the Palestinians in the territories by the 750,000 Israeli Arab citizens. According to some analysts, Monday's events indicated the radicalization of Israeli Arabs and a trend toward greater involvement in the struggle of the Arabs in the territories against the Israeli occupation.

Some saw the calm as an indication that the strike was a singular event expressing the frustrations of Israeli Arabs, after which the local population returned to business as usual.

This seemed to be borne out by the chairman of the National Committee of Arab Mayors, Ibrahim Nimer Hussein, who said the strike should not be seen as an indication of growing alienation among Israeli Arabs. He said the violent demonstrations Monday in Nazareth and Umm El-Fahm were marginal and "under the circumstances, understandable."

Rabin told reporters at Ben Gurion Airport Monday night that the spread of unrest to Jaffa, Ramle and Lod in the heart of Israel created problems for the future.

"We have to cope with it, and every legal measure -- legal from Israel's point of view -- is justified to put an end to it," he said.

The unrest also spread Monday to the Bedouin population in the Negev, Druze on the Golan Heights, for the first time, expressed solidarity

with the Palestinians.

Israel meanwhile has come under strong international criticism from friends and foes alike for its handling of the disturbances in the territories.

"We have to make clear to friendly countries such as the U.S., the European countries and to Egypt that violence cannot be tolerated -- the way the Egyptians will not tolerate violence by their students or by mobs when it takes place in Egypt," Rabin told reporters.

His emphasis on Egypt reflected Israelis' growing concern over serious new strains in their relations with the only Arab nation that has a peace treaty with Israel.

Five Egyptian Protests

Egypt has delivered five formal, and successively more forceful, diplomatic protests to Israel since the disturbances in the territories began more than two weeks ago. The Israeli ambassador, Moshe Sasson, has been repeatedly summoned to the Foreign Ministry in Giza, outside Cairo, to receive admonitions over Israel's behavior. He has informed Jerusalem that feelings are running high in Egypt and relations with Israel are growing increasingly tense.

Abdel Wahab Darousha, an Arab member of the Knesset for the Labor Party who is currently in Cairo, told the Israeli newspaper Davar Tuesday that he does not think Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will be able much longer to resist pressure by the hard-line Arab states and the Palestine Liberation Organization to recall his ambassador in Tel Aviv for "consultations" or make some other symbolic demonstration of displeasure toward Israel.

Egypt recalled its Israeli envoy in September 1982, following the Sabra and Shatila refugee-camp massacres, and relations between Israel and Cairo remained frozen for more than three years. Israeli officials fear a serious deterioration if Mubarak takes the same action now.

Rabin told reporters Monday night that Israel is "ready to solve the conflict" between itself and Jordan and "Palestinians who are not declared members of the PLO" at negotiations.

'Suffering Will Be Increased'

"If they believe that through terror and violence they are going to achieve (anything). . . we must make it clear to them that they will not achieve (anything). . . Their suffering will be increased instead of creating conditions that allow them to live peacefully," Rabin said.

Monday's general strike in the territories paralleled the one in Israel, and it was felt by the construction and textile industries in Israel, which employ Arab workers from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Production was "slowed" at the Polgat textile plant in Kiryat Gat because several hundred Arabs from Gaza stayed away from their jobs.

Some factory managers in Israel were said to be considering hiring workers from overseas instead of Arabs from the territories.

(Also contributing to this report was Tel Aviv correspondent Hugh Orgel.)

REAGAN SAID TO BE MONITORING SITUATION IN THE TERRITORIES

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (JTA) -- President Reagan has been "very carefully" monitoring the violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Tuesday.

Both the White House and State Department called Tuesday for Israel and Palestinians in the occupied territories to end the violence.

"It is time for both sides to step back from confrontation, before there are more tragic casualties," Fitzwater said.

State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley called for "restraint by all parties and a common commitment to deal with the underlying problems and frustrations, which, in our view, need to be addressed."

Oakley declined to say whether the State Department is satisfied with Israel's handling of the crisis, except to reiterate past statements that the United States has raised concerns at the "highest levels" of the Israeli government and "remains in constant normal contact" with Jerusalem.

Meeting With Shamir

A State Department official said Tuesday that U.S. ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering met Monday morning with Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir to express concern about Israel's "excessive use of force" in quelling the violence.

Fitzwater said that Reagan has discussed the situation with his national security adviser, Lt. Gen. Colin Powell, and "he has been involved in the communications that have been made with Israel and with some of the Arab nations."

He emphasized that despite Reagan's personal involvement, "we think the appropriate channel has been primarily through our various diplomatic means."

The United States criticized Israeli policy in the territories in two respects during meetings last week with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Fitzwater emphasized one of the points Tuesday -- Israel's use of "live ammunition" when shooting at rioters. He said that the United States has asked Israel to consider using "rubber bullets."

The other concern raised by the United States was for Israel to consider creating a special police force to handle rioting in the territories, rather than relying on soldiers, who are more apt to shoot, an administration official said Monday.

A State Department official drew the conclusion Tuesday that Israel has apparently not "taken to heart" the U.S. concerns raised with Rabin, since Palestinians were killed again on Monday in the territories.

'Harsh' Measures Deplored

Fitzwater used the phrase "harsh security measures" in describing Israeli actions in the territories, but also criticized the Palestinians for engaging in demonstrations and riots.

The White House spokesman said that "the continuing occupation is exacting a toll on the 1.5 million Palestinians in the territories and on Israel as well." He said the violence "undermines" the peace process and "damages the self-respect and world opinion of Israel."

In her briefing at the State Department,

Oakley said, "We have repeatedly urged restraint; now more than ever we believe that neither further disorder nor harsh security measures can contribute to reconciliation, negotiation and peace."

"It is time for all sides to look beyond their own definitions of the causes of this violence and to commit themselves squarely through the process of negotiations," she said, adding that the United States "stands ready to assist" in that process.

Both Fitzwater and Oakley said the United States has been in contact with other Arab governments and Palestinians. Fitzwater told reporters that the United States has been in contact with Palestinian leaders in the territories, but still refuses to talk with members of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The State Department on Monday reiterated the travel advisory in effect since March 1982 warning U.S. citizens about traveling to the administered territories. Oakley said there are "no thoughts" about upgrading the warning. She also said there were no plans for U.S. officials to visit the region.

AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS EXPRESS RANGE OF VIEWS ON UNREST IN GAZA

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Reactions by American Jewish organizations to unrest in Gaza and East Jerusalem have so far ranged from a call on Israel to achieve a political settlement of the Palestinian problem to harsh criticism of Jews and others outside of Israel who attempt to "dictate" Israeli policy.

A third, more centrist position is being taken by groups, such as the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, who are urging Arab leaders to meet the Israelis on their continued appeal for direct negotiations.

In local communities, meanwhile, Jewish leaders are faced with a growing uneasiness over the image of Israel and the way it is being portrayed by the news media, to a degree not seen since Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

In a strongly-worded statement, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said the outbreak of Arab-Israeli violence in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza "should shock Israel's government" into ending the status quo in the administered territories.

"I fervently hope that the unity government in Jerusalem will act to defuse the violence, to restore order and to actively seek and find appropriate partners for the process of negotiation," said Schindler.

The UAHC is the congregational body of the Reform movement.

A similar call for peace negotiations came from the American Committee for Israel Peace Center, the U.S. support group of the Tel Aviv-based International Center for Peace in the Middle East.

In a statement issued Monday, the committee urged Israel to strive for a political settlement, while at the same time refraining "from acts of force that will aggravate the present situation and increase friction within the local Palestinian population."

Signers of the statement include Leonard Fein, former editor of Moment magazine; Philip Klutznick, honorary president of B'nai B'rith;

Letty Cottin Pogrebin, an editor of Ms. magazine; and Menachem Rosensaft, founding chairperson of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors.

PLO Blamed For Unrest

Following a special meeting Monday with Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador to the United States, Presidents Conference Chairman Morris Abram issued a statement saying that the unrest in the territories has "been planned, instigated and incited by Palestinian terrorists led by the PLO and Moslem fundamentalist groups."

But Abram repeated a call for "dialogue and negotiations" between Israel and "Palestinian representatives who are prepared to live in peace with Israel."

Abram also said that in the face of a continuing series of "provocations," Israel has "sought to react with restraint."

Also meeting Monday was the executive committee of the American Jewish Congress. According to Henry Siegman, the group's executive director, the committee decided to stick by the position put forth in September by AJCongress, which supported Israel Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' call for an international peace conference and warned of the potential for violence in the territories.

Siegman said in a telephone interview, however, that "Israel cannot be expected to yield to violence or come forward with proposals while this unrest continues. But that does not diminish the need to deal with those root causes once the violence is under control."

Seymour Reich, president of B'nai B'rith International, said in a statement, "The answer to the unrest is the same as it always has been: face-to-face negotiations" between Israel and either neighboring Arab countries or Palestinian moderates.

But Reich urged caution and said that Israel "should not be panicked into hasty actions that will serve neither peace nor security."

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for a relaxation of law and order in the territories since the days of the "strong hand" policies of one-time territorial governor Ariel Sharon and chief of staff Rafael Eitan.

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Newspaper accounts and television coverage of confrontations between Israeli soldiers and Arab youths are being received in local Jewish communities with both sadness at the loss of life and concern over Israel's image. Community leaders are monitoring whether news reports seem accurate or biased, and have expressed discomfort about comparisons being made between Israel and South Africa.

ISRAELI OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. ARE STRESSING ARMY'S 'RESTRAINT' By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 22 (JTA) -- Israel's chief representatives in the United States are stressing the role of the Palestine Liberation Organization in "inciting" the rioters in Gaza and the West Bank, while underscoring the "restraint" of the Israeli troops in confronting the demonstrators.

The Israeli Embassy in Washington and the Israeli Consulate General in New York, as well as other Israeli consulates in the United States, have been receiving many requests from the American news media, as well as Jewish leaders and organizations, for an explanation of what is happening in Gaza, the West Bank and Arab communities in Israel.

Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador to Washington, was in New York Monday night to brief the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations on the situation. The meeting was closed to the press, but according to a spokesman for the Presidents Conference, the Israeli envoy stressed the restraint Israel is exercising in Gaza and East Jerusalem.

Arad reportedly noted that the police are being instructed not to fire live ammunition unless their lives are threatened and they are using rubber bullets, tear gas and water hoses to defend themselves.

The envoy pointed out that the Israeli government is once again expressing its willingness to meet face to face with Arab leaders to reach a peaceful solution to the Arab Israeli conflict. But Israel's most immediate concern is to pacify the situation in the territories, he stated.

Moshe Yegar, Israel's consul general in New York, said in a telephone interview with the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that the riots are orchestrated by the PLO. "No other government could demonstrate more self-restraint than Israel has been doing in the last two weeks," Yegar claimed.

Yegar said that the PLO-sponsored riots could not be a substitute to real peace negotiations and would lead the Palestinians in the territories nowhere. "The riots and demonstrations will never change the policy of the government of

REAGAN SAID TO BE MONITORING SITUATION IN THE TERRITORIES

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (JTA) -- President Reagan has been "very carefully" monitoring the violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Tuesday.

Both the White House and State Department called Tuesday for Israel and Palestinians in the occupied territories to end the violence.

"It is time for both sides to step back from confrontation, before there are more tragic casualties," Fitzwater said.

State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley called for "restraint by all parties and a common commitment to deal with the underlying problems and frustrations, which, in our view, need to be addressed."

Oakley declined to say whether the State Department is satisfied with Israel's handling of the crisis, except to reiterate past statements that the United States has raised concerns at the "highest levels" of the Israeli government and "remains in constant normal contact" with Jerusalem.

Meeting With Shamir

A State Department official said Tuesday that U.S. ambassador to Israel Thomas Pickering met Monday morning with Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir to express concern about Israel's "excessive use of force" in quelling the violence.

Fitzwater said that Reagan has discussed the situation with his national security adviser, Lt. Gen. Colin Powell, and "he has been involved in the communications that have been made with Israel and with some of the Arab nations."

He emphasized that despite Reagan's personal involvement, "we think the appropriate channel has been primarily through our various diplomatic means."

The United States criticized Israeli policy in the territories in two respects during meetings last week with Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Fitzwater emphasized one of the points Tuesday -- Israel's use of "live ammunition" when shooting at rioters. He said that the United States has asked Israel to consider using "rubber bullets."

The other concern raised by the United States was for Israel to consider creating a special police force to handle rioting in the territories, rather than relying on soldiers, who are more apt to shoot, an administration official said Monday.

A State Department official drew the conclusion Tuesday that Israel has apparently not "taken to heart" the U.S. concerns raised with Rabin, since Palestinians were killed again on Monday in the territories.

'Harsh' Measures Deplored

Fitzwater used the phrase "harsh security measures" in describing Israeli actions in the territories, but also criticized the Palestinians for engaging in demonstrations and riots.

The White House spokesman said that "the continuing occupation is exacting a toll on the 1.5 million Palestinians in the territories and on Israel as well." He said the violence "undermines" the peace process and "damages the self-respect and world opinion of Israel."

In her briefing at the State Department,

Oakley said, "We have repeatedly urged restraint; now more than ever we believe that neither further disorder nor harsh security measures can contribute to reconciliation, negotiation and peace."

"It is time for all sides to look beyond their own definitions of the causes of this violence and to commit themselves squarely through the process of negotiations," she said, adding that the United States "stands ready to assist" in that process.

Both Fitzwater and Oakley said the United States has been in contact with other Arab governments and Palestinians. Fitzwater told reporters that the United States has been in contact with Palestinian leaders in the territories, but still refuses to talk with members of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The State Department on Monday reiterated the travel advisory in effect since March 1982 warning U.S. citizens about traveling to the administered territories. Oakley said there are "no thoughts" about upgrading the warning. She also said there were no plans for U.S. officials to visit the region.

AMERICAN JEWISH LEADERS EXPRESS RANGE OF VIEWS ON UNREST IN GAZA

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 21 (JTA) -- Reactions by American Jewish organizations to unrest in Gaza and East Jerusalem have so far ranged from a call on Israel to achieve a political settlement of the Palestinian problem to harsh criticism of Jews and others outside of Israel who attempt to "dictate" Israeli policy.

A third, more centrist position is being taken by groups, such as the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, who are urging Arab leaders to meet the Israelis on their continued appeal for direct negotiations.

In local communities, meanwhile, Jewish leaders are faced with a growing uneasiness over the image of Israel and the way it is being portrayed by the news media, to a degree not seen since Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982.

In a strongly-worded statement, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, said the outbreak of Arab-Israeli violence in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza "should shock Israel's government" into ending the status quo in the administered territories.

"I fervently hope that the unity government in Jerusalem will act to defuse the violence, to restore order and to actively seek and find appropriate partners for the process of negotiation," said Schindler.

The UAHC is the congregational body of the Reform movement.

A similar call for peace negotiations came from the American Committee for Israel Peace Center, the U.S. support group of the Tel Aviv-based International Center for Peace in the Middle East.

In a statement issued Monday, the committee urged Israel to strive for a political settlement, while at the same time refraining "from acts of force that will aggravate the present situation and increase friction within the local Palestinian population."

Signers of the statement include Leonard Fein, former editor of Moment magazine; Philip Klutznick, honorary president of B'nai B'rith;

Letty Cottin Pogrebin, an editor of Ms. magazine; and Menachem Rosensaft, founding chairperson of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors.

PLO Blamed For Unrest

Following a special meeting Monday with Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador to the United States, Presidents Conference Chairman Morris Abram issued a statement saying that the unrest in the territories has "been planned, instigated and incited by Palestinian terrorists led by the PLO and Moslem fundamentalist groups."

But Abram repeated a call for "dialogue and negotiations" between Israel and "Palestinian representatives who are prepared to live in peace with Israel."

Abram also said that in the face of a continuing series of "provocations," Israel has "sought to react with restraint."

Also meeting Monday was the executive committee of the American Jewish Congress. According to Henry Siegman, the group's executive director, the committee decided to stick by the position put forth in September by AJCongress, which supported Israel Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' call for an international peace conference and warned of the potential for violence in the territories.

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Yegar said that the PLO-sponsored riots could not be a substitute to real peace negotiations and would lead the Palestinians in the territories nowhere. "The riots and demonstrations will never change the policy of the government of

Israel," he declared.

Asked if, in his view, the American news media have been reporting the events in Gaza and the West Bank accurately, Yegar said he prefers "not to express an opinion on the subject."

IN EUROPEAN CAPITALS, ARABS GROUPS ARE CAMPAIGNING AGAINST ISRAEL JTA Staff Report

Dec. 22 (JTA) -- In Paris and Athens, Geneva and Amsterdam, Arab groups and their sympathizers are trying to rally public support for Palestinians in the Israeli-administered territories and are demanding strong condemnation of Israel for the tough measures it has taken to quell rioting in the Gaza Strip and West Bank.

In Paris, a delegation of young Frenchmen of Algerian origin demonstrated Tuesday outside the Israel Embassy, calling for an end to Israeli "violence" and for an international peace conference with the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Police blocked the embassy premises. They were handed a letter addressed to the Israeli government warning it to "negotiate with the PLO before it is too late." The message claimed that "the conflict is, for the time being, one between Israel and the Palestinians. Do not turn it into an Arab-Jewish clash."

Some of the demonstrators, representing Franco-Algerian organizations, announced they would hold a vigil and hunger strike at the Notre Dame cathedral on Christmas eve for "the Palestinian martyrs" killed in the recent uprising in the territories.

The French Socialist Party, headed by President Francois Mitterrand, meanwhile, has expressed its concern over events in the territories.

Rally In Athens

In Athens, the Union of Palestinian Students in Greece staged a rally at the Athens University last Friday to protest the latest "Israeli attacks against the inhabitants of the occupied Arab lands."

The students presented a draft resolution to the United Nations office in Athens denouncing the "Zionist, racist oppression being violently carried out today in the occupied lands, which have resulted in dozens of deaths, hundreds of injuries and thousands of arrests."

The General Confederation of Workers of Greece called on all working people to participate in a 10-minute work stoppage at noon Monday in solidarity with the Palestinian people. They called for an end to "the oppression by Israel in the occupied Arab lands," a settlement of the Palestinian problem through an international conference and peace in the eastern Mediterranean region.

A strong rebuttal by Israel was not broadcast by Greek television even though Moshe Gilboa, Israel's diplomatic representative in Athens, personally intervened with the director of television. Gilboa holds the rank of ambassador, but relations between Greece and Israel are on only the consular level.

The Israeli Mission in Athens issued a statement blaming the PLO for the violence in the territories. It noted that before the riots broke out, the PLO radio station in Baghdad urged the Palestinian population in the territories to "give the enemy an unforgettable lesson." But the statement was ignored by the Greek news

media.

In Holland, the new PLO representative in The Hague, Safie Safieh, sent an open letter to the Dutch people, through the ANP news agency, calling events in the territories "a moral challenge to all of mankind."

Safieh, a Roman Catholic, addressed himself to his "Christian brethren" in the Netherlands. He urged all Dutch Christians to "remember the Palestinians in their Christmas prayers."

The names of 21 Palestinian students alleged to have been killed by Israeli security forces during the first two weeks of the disturbances were published in an advertisement in several Dutch newspapers. It was inserted by the Netherlands Committee of Support to Palestinian Higher Education. The committee raises money for Bir Zeit University near Ramallah in the West Bank.

The Conference of Arab Ambassadors, which met in Switzerland this week, called on the Swiss government and the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva to intervene on behalf of the Palestinians.

The Israeli charge d'affaires in Bern, Yigael Antebi, was summoned Monday to the Swiss Foreign Ministry by Alfred Ruegg, its director general. Ruegg requested information about events in the territories and asked to be kept informed of developments.

(Contributing to this report were correspondents Edwin Eytan in Paris, Tamar Levy in Geneva, Henrietta Boas in Amsterdam and Jean Cohen in Athens.)

BARBADOS SYNAGOGUE IS SITE OF COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Dec. 22 (JTA)-- Sabbath eve services were held for the first time in more than 100 years in the synagogue of Congregation Nidhei Israel here last Friday night, the World Jewish Congress reported.

They marked the opening of the four-day biennial conference of the Commonwealth Jewish Council and the reconsecration of what is possibly the oldest Jewish house of worship in the Western hemisphere.

Rabbi Israel Singer, secretary general of the World Jewish Congress, officiated at the rededication and Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford of Barbados was the honored guest.

The Commonwealth Jewish Council represents Jewish communities in 24 countries of the British Commonwealth. Its president, Greville Janner, a Labor member of the British Parliament, formally opened a special exhibition on the history of "Jewish settlement in the Caribbean" at the Barbados Museum, under the auspices of the Barbadian government.

There are about 27 Jewish families in this island nation of a quarter million. Jews arrived here shortly after the first British settlement in 1627. Congregation Nidhei Israel was founded in 1654. The synagogue was partly destroyed by a hurricane in 1831. It is now undergoing restoration, expected to be completed late next year.

The 110 delegates and observers at the conference included representatives from Jewish communities in such Third World countries as India and Zambia. Resolutions adopted at the gathering, which ended Tuesday, include a strong condemnation of apartheid and a call to bring to justice Nazi war criminals still at large and living in Commonwealth countries.

**ISRAELIS DEFEND HANDLING OF UNREST
AND CALL ON ARABS TO MAKE PEACE**

By Howard Rosenberg

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Two high-level Israeli Cabinet members defended their government's handling of the recent unrest in the administered territories and, in separate appearances on Sunday morning television talk shows, called on Arab nations to join the peace process to determine the future of those areas.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, speaking on NBC's "Meet the Press," observed that Israel could have annexed the West Bank and Gaza Strip years ago, but, instead of unilaterally determining the fate of those territories, has left them open for future negotiation.

"Obviously today it's clear, more than ever before, that only a political, peaceful, diplomatic settlement" can resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said on the CBS program "Face the Nation."

Peres also played down the sympathy strike and protests staged by Arabs living in Israel on Dec. 21. The foreign minister said he met recently with a group of Israeli Arabs who told him that violence would accomplish nothing.

"They, like us, understand that we should not turn to riots and hatred and violence, which will lead to nowhere," he said.

Peres confirmed that he recently suggested that Israel demilitarize the Gaza Strip. "I do feel that one of the solutions for the future of those areas is demilitarization," he said.

'Accident, Not Policy'

Responding to U.S. criticism of Israel's use of live ammunition to quell the riots, Peres said that Israeli soldiers are permitted to open fire only when their lives are in danger. "I see the use of live ammunition as an accident, not as a policy," he emphasized.

He expressed regret over the deaths of some 22 Palestinian rioters, saying he feels "responsible for the safety of the Arab people" under Israeli jurisdiction.

Rabin, in his NBC appearance, however, rejected the idea of creating a special force to control riots, citing Israel's limited resources. But he, too, said that Israeli soldiers are only authorized to use live ammunition when their lives are in danger.

Rabin also criticized parallels being drawn in the news media between the situations in Israel and South Africa. Noting that blacks are the overwhelming majority in South Africa, the defense minister pointed out that even if Israel annexed the territories and accorded "full civil rights" to all residents, Jews would still be in the majority, numbering 3 million, compared to 2 million Arabs.

Appearing on the same program as Rabin, former U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis criticized the State Department for issuing scolding statements on the unrest last week that went "right to the edge of being a mistake. No country likes to be lectured about how it keeps peace and order. And you react defensively."

"And that is exactly what the Israelis are

doing," Lewis said. "They are blaming the press, they are blaming the foreign spokesmen, instead of focusing on what they can do about the issue."

Lewis said the "best substantive approach" to peace that has yet been proposed was President Reagan's September 1, 1982 plan that sets a high-level of autonomy for the territories. But he dismissed the possibility of a political solution before the U.S. presidential elections and Israel's next round of elections, both in November 1988.

**DEBATE CONTINUES ABOUT FAIRNESS
OF MASS TRIALS FOR RIOTERS**

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- The dozens of Palestinians being brought before military courts in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, on charges of rioting and other acts of violence, cannot possibly have "fair and just" trials, in the opinion of an Israeli lawyer with experience in the military courts.

Yaron Rabinowitz, a former military prosecutor in Gaza, said in an interview published Monday in Haaretz that when large numbers of defendants are made to appear in court at the same time, there is no way the judges can give their attention to each individual case.

"I witnessed trials in which a group of 40 defendants were brought before a judge. Those who pleaded guilty had to step forward and raise their hands. This is no way to hold a trial," Rabinowitz said.

He also said there are simply not enough lawyers to defend the many Palestinian youths arrested during nearly three weeks of rioting in the administered territories.

"Even if the lawyers in the Gaza Strip rally to represent the latest detainees, every lawyer would have to represent at least 10 defendants," Rabinowitz said. "Even the most competent lawyer cannot perform his duty properly, especially in a system of quick trials."

At present, few of the detainees are represented by legal counsel. Lawyers in the Gaza Strip are boycotting the trials to protest the alleged mistreatment of the suspects. They say the arrests were so fast and so numerous that they had no time to prepare their clients' cases.

But Israel Defense Force Judge Advocate General Amnon Streshnov has rejected those arguments. He said Sunday that while the military courts will seek speedy trials, the prisoners would not be denied their full rights under the law.

JEWISH GROUPS URGE PROGRESS ON PEACE
By Yitzhak Rabi

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- While continuing to place the blame for the unrest and tension in the Gaza Strip and West Bank on the Arab states' refusal to hold direct, face-to-face negotiations with Israel, American Jewish leaders are also urging Israel to pursue more vigorously all avenues to peace in the region.

Rabbi Kassel Abelson, president of the Rabbinical Assembly, representing 1,200 Conservative rabbis internationally, said in a statement issued here Monday that "Israel must aggressively

pursue the peace process and continue exploring with the United States all prospects that might lead towards peace in the area, including an international peace conference as advocated by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres."

While Peres, who heads the Labor Party, supports an international conference, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir of Likud is strongly opposed to the idea. Their difference of opinion has led to a virtual stalemate in Israel about what step to take next to advance the peace process.

Abelson, in his statement, warned that there are dangers to letting the deadlock continue: "The lack of such peace and movement in direct negotiations between Israel and neighboring Arab states has produced the tensions that persist in Gaza and the West Bank," he said.

In a separate statement, the American Jewish Committee expressed the hope that the "unfortunate events" in the territories "will reinvigorate the debate in Israel over the need to forge a national consensus on how to resolve the Palestinian problem through direct negotiations with its Arab neighbors, leading to a permanent and peaceful settlement of the conflict."

The group's president, Theodore Ellenoff, said, "The loss of life is tragic, and should serve to underscore the reality that the Palestinian Arabs have been ill-served by those who practice and counsel violence. The tragedy will only be compounded if Palestinian leadership, which might otherwise be ready to work toward peace with Israel, now retreats or even endorses radical demands, overwhelmed by the most violent and extreme elements."

SHARON EMBROILED IN WAR OF WORDS OVER GAZA AND HIS NEW APARTMENT By Hugh Orgel and Gil Sedan

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Ariel Sharon, the outspoken Herut hardliner, is embroiled in another angry war of words with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. He has also been criticized by Mayor Teddy Kollek of Jerusalem for demonstratively moving into an apartment in the Old City's Moslem Quarter two weeks ago.

Sharon, who was defense minister during the war in Lebanon and is presently minister of commerce and industry, accused Peres Sunday night of creating a "worldwide panic" by his constant warnings of the demographic dangers to Israel by its continued rule over 1.5 million Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Addressing a Likud party meeting, Sharon also blasted Peres for proposing that the Gaza Strip be demilitarized.

Peres, who is Labor Party leader, responded Monday. Addressing high school students in Kiryat Gat, he denied proposing a one-sided withdrawal from Gaza.

He said that as part of peace negotiations with Jordan, the Palestinian question would have to be raised. In this context, he said, Israel should unilaterally propose disarming the Gaza Strip.

Referring to right-wing policies, Peres said, "When they talk of Gaza being an integral part of the Land of Israel, they mean incorporating both land and people. What do they want--another 650,000 Arabs?" Peres asked. "By the year 2000, the Arabs will form 50 percent of the country's population."

Sharon has no monopoly on wisdom in Lebanon, the foreign minister said in a reference

to the Lebanon war, largely engineered by Sharon, which cost Israel several thousand casualties without achieving its objectives.

Wrong Time And Place

In Jerusalem, too, Sharon demonstrated a lack of wisdom, according to Peres. "Is this the time, and that the place, to go and live in the Moslem Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem?" he asked.

Mayor Kollek, also a Laborite, made the same point in a speech Monday to the City Council. While Sharon made clear his move was intended to encourage other Jews to live in the Moslem Quarter, Kollek said, "We do not aspire to integration, but rather to neighborly relations. Co-existence does not mean love, but rather neighborly relations with as few as possible disturbances," the mayor declared.

Sharon's housewarming and Chanukah party in his Moslem Quarter flat on the night of Dec. 15 is considered partly responsible for the outbreak of Arab rioting in East Jerusalem that followed.

Although Kollek at the time called the two days of rock-throwing and tire-burning the worst ever to hit the capital, he played down its importance in his address to the council Monday.

"What happened in East Jerusalem 10 days ago was child's play," he said. "There were no casualties. I don't want to underplay the seriousness of the situation, but there was a lot of exaggeration and hysteria," he said.

The disturbances in East Jerusalem coincided with some of the worst rioting in the Gaza Strip and West Bank. In the opinion of many Israelis, the East Jerusalem disturbances were chiefly a carry-over from the riots in the territories, though possibly fueled by Sharon's move.

ISRAEL TO REAP BENEFITS FROM VOA STATION IN ARAVA By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Israel will eventually own the Voice of America radio transmitter the United States is building in the Arava region of the Negev.

Under the agreement with the United States, formally endorsed by the Cabinet on Aug. 3, 1986, the facility will revert to Israeli ownership 25 years after it goes into operation, at no cost to Israel.

But Israel will reap economic advantages long before then. The transmitter will be completed within four to five years, Communications Minister Gad Yaacobi told the Cabinet Sunday.

During this time, the United States will invest approximately \$300 million in the project. Under the agreement with Washington, half that amount must be spent on local purchases of equipment and jobs for Israeli workers.

The VOA transmitter, intended for broadcasts to the Soviet Union and Eastern bloc countries, will consist of 16 antenna towers, each over 700 feet high. Its location in Israel will make the broadcasts less prone to jamming than VOA transmissions from Europe.

The project, which Israel joined at the request of the Reagan administration, generated considerable controversy here. Conservationists worried about its ecological effects on the Arava, a desert region along the Jordanian border extending roughly from the southern tip of the Dead Sea to Eilat.

**IDF GETS HIGH PRAISE FOR ARRESTING
TERRORIST INFILTRATION FROM JORDAN**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- The Israel Defense Force is getting high praise for the swift, efficient way it dealt last Friday night with the first terrorist infiltration of Israel from Jordan in 10 years.

Especially pleased are the residents of Bet Shean township and the surrounding villages and kibbutzim south of the Sea of Galilee, who were alerted to the infiltration minutes after a breach was discovered in the electronic border fence. The alert enabled them to take immediate security measures.

An IDF reserve unit is credited with capturing the three heavily armed infiltrators without loss of life. One of the terrorists was wounded in a brief shoot-out in a cornfield. There were no Israeli casualties.

The hole in the fence was discovered along the banks of the Jordan River, some 650 yards from Kibbutz Maoz Haim. A Bedouin tracker led the IDF patrol to the spot where the infiltrators were hiding.

The terrorists opened fire with automatic rifles and threw five hand grenades at the soldiers before they were overcome. The three were dressed in civilian clothes under which they wore IDF uniforms. Had they managed to evade detection, they could have caused serious damage and casualties.

The terrorists were carrying steel spikes, which they apparently intended to scatter on roadways to halt vehicles that would come under fire. According to military sources, the terrorists are members of the Palestine Liberation Front, which is based in Iraq and headed by Mohammed (Abul) Abbas.

The terrorists entered Jordan from Iraq four days earlier and crossed the country to the Israel border without being halted by Jordanian authorities. Nevertheless, Israeli officials still believe Jordan is doing its best to prevent terrorist acts against Israel from Jordanian soil.

The speedy capture of the terrorists has done much to restore confidence in the IDF. It suffered gravely after a single Palestinian entered Israel from Lebanon by hang glider on the night of Nov. 25 and, even though detected, managed to infiltrate a military base and kill 6 soldiers and wound 7 before he was shot to death.

**BIAS CRIMES DETECTIVE JOINS
BOROUGH PARK MURDER PROBE**

By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- New York Police have assigned a detective from the Bias Crimes Unit to the investigation of the murder Friday of a 39-year-old Orthodox Jewish postal worker in the Borough Park section of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Police announced the assignment following a Sunday afternoon rally in which 300 Hasidic Jews gathered in front of the offices of the Council of Jewish Organizations in Borough Park to voice their concern that the attack on Eli Wald was anti-Semitic.

"If enough people feel that there is a basis to calling a crime racially motivated, we will look into it," said Inspector Michael Markman, commanding officer of the bias unit.

In an interview Monday, Captain Michael

Scagnelli, commander of the 66th precinct, said that the bias unit would confer with homicide detectives despite "every indication" that the stabbing death of Wald was the result of "an attempted robbery that went bad."

Scagnelli, who shared a makeshift podium at the rally with State Assemblyman Dov Hikind of Brooklyn and Borough Park City Councilman Noach Dear, called Sunday's event "very peaceful" and said no uniformed police were assigned.

Hikind, however, said those in attendance were "furious, angry people."

"The anger I saw yesterday I haven't seen in a long time," he added.

On Sunday evening, major rabbinical figures from a number of Hasidic sects met at the home of Solomon Halberstam, rebbe of the Bobover sect, to discuss ways of "rebuilding" the dormant Borough Park Community Patrol, according to Hikind. Armed patrol members have been paid to monitor the streets of Borough Park from 3 p.m. to 3 a.m. in marked cars. Community members are asked to contribute funds for the service, said Hikind.

Police and community leaders support the patrol, as opposed to that announced Sunday by members of the Jewish Defense League. Hikind, a Borough Park resident, called the JDL's patrols "counterproductive," and said that he "resents some of these people who don't live in the community coming in here to stir up the community even more."

Yakov Lloyd, spokesman for the JDL, acknowledged that neither he nor members of his patrol live in Borough Park.

Wald was stabbed at least 11 times near his home while walking from the subway at 1:10 a.m. in the predominately Orthodox Jewish neighborhood.

His wristwatch, knapsack and a wallet containing \$2 in cash were found on his body, police said.

Hasidic Jews attending Sunday's rally had responded to privately printed handbills displayed in the neighborhood. Hikind said that no organization claimed responsibility for convening the rally.

Besides their demands to the police, some of those attending the rally said that Wald had been buried hastily as part of a "cover-up" of the murder.

Rabbi Morris Shmidman, executive director of the Council of Jewish Organizations, denied the charge. He said Wald's funeral was held Friday before sundown, soon after his body was released by the police, at the request of his widow.

Said Dear, the councilman: "I don't think you can answer" whether Wald's murder was racially motivated. He praised the police department, and said he had spoken with Mayor Ed Koch, who expressed his sympathies to Wald's family and all concerned.

A memorial service for Wald is set for Sunday at the B'nai Israel Synagogue in Brooklyn.

SOCCER FANS FINED FOR ANTI-SEMITIC SLURS

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- Four fans of a Rotterdam soccer team have been fined the equivalent of \$75 to \$200 each for shouting anti-Semitic epithets during a match played last March.

The fans, supporters of the Feyenoord soccer club, also were barred from attending six consecutive matches of their favorite team. To make

sure they abide by the orders of the Amsterdam district court, they are required to report to the Rotterdam police while the games are in progress.

The incident occurred during a match between Feyenoord and the Amsterdam soccer team, Ajax. The fans shouted "Van Thijn, Jewish swine." Ed Van Thijn, who is of Jewish origin, is the mayor of Amsterdam.

OFFICIALS FORESEE SUFFERING BY JEWS IN ETHIOPIAN FAMINE By Andrew Silow Carroll

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 (JTA) -- A second famine in three years is threatening to devastate Ethiopia, and with it the 10,000-20,000 Jews living primarily in the country's Gondar region.

As many as 7.3 million of Ethiopia's estimated 45 million people may again face starvation, according to George Kassis, UNICEF desk officer for Ethiopia.

Faced with a crop-withering drought, civil war and an agricultural economy that has yet to recover from the famine of 1984-85, the Ethiopian government has appealed for donations of 1.4 million tons of food.

Last week, members of the Interfaith Hunger Appeal, a relief coalition that includes the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), returned from a week-long fact-finding tour of Ethiopia. "There is an impending crisis, and the shortfall of one million tons of food is at least accurate," said Monsignor Robert Coll, executive director of the organization, at a news conference.

Food shortages have particularly affected the northern regions of Eritrea and Tigre, but parts of Gondar and other regions are not immune to drought or mass migrations, Coll reported.

The Jews of Gondar will face food shortages despite what Aryeh Cooperstock, director of the JDC's International Development Program, said was "the best crop there in years." The crop, planted as part of JDC's agricultural recovery project, was diminished by rain and hail.

Nevertheless, said Cooperstock, who accompanied the interfaith trip to Ethiopia, "I am optimistic about Gondar, but very concerned about Ethiopia."

For Ethiopian Jews in Gondar and Israel, the fear of starvation is compounded by anguish at separation from family members. In addition, say Ethiopian Jewry activists in this country, the resumption of forced resettlement could destroy the fragile social fabric of the Jewish community.

The activists say that almost every Ethiopian Jew who immigrated to Israel during the Operation Moses airlift in 1985 left behind a first-degree relative.

Between November 1984 and March 1985, 8,000 Ethiopian Jews were flown to Israel from neighboring Sudan. Because of the unreliability of an Ethiopian census taken in 1976 and the perceived reluctance of Jews to come forward, estimates of the numbers of remaining Jews range from 10,000 to 20,000.

"Their separation is painful for them at all times," said Barbara Ribakove Gordon, director of the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry. "But when they see the photographs again (of starving people), the anguish is great."

And according to Will Recant, executive director of the American Association for Ethiopian Jews, the family members left behind because they couldn't attempt the physically grueling exodus to

Israel were all too often women, children and the infirm -- those least likely to weather the effects of famine.

Despite international pressure, Mengistu Haile Mariam, president of Ethiopia, has resumed a resettlement program that includes the movement of people short distances from their farms and scattered dwellings to government-selected village sites. The United States and other donors object to the forced nature of the program, according to a spokesman for the U.S. Agency for International Development (AID).

"The Ethiopian Jews have great fear of 'villagization,'" said Recant. "Moving the members of a village miles away totally destroys their sense of community and separateness."

In anticipation of famine and resettlement, some Ethiopian Jews have migrated to the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa, where there is little housing and few ways of making a living, Recant said.

Activists have been unable to sway the Ethiopian government to consider the renewed emigration of Ethiopian Jews, even as a way of relieving the government's burden of aid.

'Forcible Abduction'

In a recent news conference in Washington, for example, Kassa Kebede, Ethiopia's ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, repeated Ethiopian government claims that Operation Moses was a "forcible abduction," and that religion is not a cause for Ethiopians to be allowed to leave.

According to the Near East Report, a Washington-based newsletter that reported Kebede's comments, a meeting on the subject at the United Nations in September between Shimon Peres, Israel's foreign minister, and his Ethiopian counterpart was "unsatisfactory."

Recant of AAJEJ feels that the donor countries that are making up the bulk of Ethiopia's shortfall can pressure Mengistu to allow the emigration of Jews to continue.

"Donor nations should bring up the fact (to the Ethiopians) that 'if you allow some people to leave it would be easier for us to continue giving aid,'" said Recant.

International donors have made commitments to supply 582,000 tons of relief food, according to Kassis. Earlier this month, AID pledged 115,000 additional tons of food, bringing the agency's total commitment to 272,000 tons.

Meantime, private volunteer organizations such as JDC and the Boston-based American Jewish World Service are continuing to provide relief and development assistance to Ethiopia on a non-sectarian basis.

During the Interfaith Hunger Appeal mission, JDC's Cooperstock met with Berhanu Jambare, chief of Ethiopia's Relief and Rehabilitation Commission, who reiterated the government's support for JDC's various agricultural and public health projects in Gondar.

The fortunes of all Ethiopians, however, may lie in the generosity of the donor community. Relief officials agree that improved monitoring so far has staved off disaster and that international commitments should be sufficient for the first few months of 1988.

Beyond that, officials are concerned that individual donors respond more quickly than they did three years ago. As the Interfaith Hunger Appeal's Coll explained, "We hope people will respond before they see the swollen bellies on TV."

SOVIETS ALLOWING JEWS MUTUAL VISITS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND USSR

By Hugh Orgel (Tel Aviv)
and Andrew Silow Carroll (New York)

Dec. 29 (JTA) -- Soviet emigration officials are allowing Soviet Jews to apply for tourist visas to visit Israel and have eased restrictions on Israelis wishing to visit relatives in Moscow, the Israeli daily Maariv reported Tuesday.

Maariv quoted reports from Moscow saying that an announcement was posted on the doors of the OVIR emigration agency there last week, announcing that "those wishing to visit Israel may now apply to do so."

Israelis wishing to visit relatives in Moscow, meanwhile, may now apply to Moscow via the diplomatic missions of Eastern European countries, who pass on the entry tourist visas.

Previously, such requests for visas to visit the Soviet Union had to be made through Rakah, the Israeli Communist party.

The new procedures have been confirmed by the Israeli Public Council for Soviet Jewry, which also says that the number of mutual visits has increased recently.

Maariv quoted a Soviet resident now visiting his family in Israel as saying that when he applied to OVIR for a tourist visa he was told, "No problem. Make an application."

He was granted permission for the visa after a three-month wait and a payment of 200 rubles, he said. The visa itself arrived two weeks later through the Dutch Embassy in Moscow, which looks after Israel's diplomatic interests in the Soviet Union.

Soviet Jewry activists in the United States said that the eased restrictions are related to diplomatic strategies initiated by the Soviets this summer, when Soviet emigres in the United States were granted brief visas to visit relatives in the Soviet Union.

Advantages For Russians

"For the Russians, there are a lot of advantages" in easing restrictions on tourists, said Jerry Goodman, executive director of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry. Goodman said the new procedures provide the Soviets with improved public relations, a new source for bringing hard currency into the Soviet Union and what he calls a "low risk, non-political way of having ties with Israel."

In addition, said Goodman, by allowing separated families to visit one another, the Soviets are hoping to "take the edge off" of the desire of Soviet Jews to leave the Soviet Union.

Echoing Goodman's views was Micah Naftalin, executive director of the Washington-based Union of Councils for Soviet Jews, who said in a telephone interview, "The Soviets must feel that this might weaken the pressure by emigres who keep pushing for appropriate emigration levels.

"For instance," he said, "some Soviet Jews in this country are reluctant to do anything that might jeopardize their chances of getting a visa to visit their families in the Soviet Union."

Naftalin added that the Soviets have been sending "mixed messages" to the United States

since the days leading up to the superpower summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Prior to the summit, OVIR had seemed to be loosening up requirements that Soviet Jews applying for exit visas must have first-degree relatives in Israel. But recently, Naftalin said, those same officials have announced that after the first of the year, having first-degree relatives will again be required for application. It is as if to say, 'the summit is over now,' " he said.

ISRAEL REJECTS U.S. APPEALS AGAINST DEPORTING PALESTINIANS

By Gil Sedan and David Landau

JERUSALEM, Dec. 29 (JTA) -- Israel has made clear that it reserves the right to deport Palestinians arrested for rioting, despite cautions from the United States in recent days against such measures.

Expulsions will depend on "our understanding" of the situation, Premier Yitzhak Shamir told reporters Tuesday during a visit to Abu Gosh, an Arab village on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

Thomas Pickering, the U.S. ambassador to Israel, is reported to have told Foreign Minister Shimon Peres last week that Washington does not favor deportations of Palestinians from the administered territories.

In Washington, the U.S. State Department reiterated that position Tuesday. "We have conveyed our opposition to deportations to various Israeli officials," said spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley.

Shamir said he "thanked the U.S. for her advice. But when the need arises, one must use the deportation procedure. It is no great pleasure, but we shall act according to our understanding."

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin who is also understood to have been approached by Pickering on the subject, told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday that Israel has detained and deported "agitators" in the past and will do so in the future "as she will deem necessary."

He reportedly has conveyed the same message to American officials.

But using less forceful phrases in speaking to reporters outside the Knesset chamber, the defense minister said Israel would consider using "all the measures available under our law, including deportation."

Entirely Up To Israel

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday that Israel would continue to use "the legal means at her disposal" to maintain order in the territories and that deportations are "entirely" up to Israel.

These responses appeared to indicate Israel's determination not to be swayed by opinion abroad.

The deportation option is a holdover from the British Mandate's defense emergency regulations of 1945. According to some sources, the authorities want to expel at least 50 Palestinian activists. But so far, no deportation orders have been issued.

There were rumors in the West Bank on

Tuesday evening that six Palestinians had been detained with a view toward their imminent deportation.

But well-placed Israeli government sources maintained that there would be no decisions on deportations until the present phase of fast judicial proceedings against suspected participants in the rioting have concluded.

Scores of Palestinian detainees are being brought daily before military courts in the West Bank and Gaza Strip on charges of rioting and other security defenses. Seventeen defendants appeared Sunday before a military court in Hebron. All pleaded "not guilty."

Military prosecutors have prepared charges against 250 suspects and another 400 charge sheets are under preparation. According to official figures, more than 900 Palestinians have been detained since violent disturbances broke out in the territories on Dec. 9. Palestinian sources put the number arrested at 2,500.

There are some 600 detainees in Fara prison near Nablus and the Israel Defense Force has set up a new detention center near Dahariya village in the Hebron hills.

Palestinian lawyers have assailed the speedy judicial proceedings, contending they have not been given adequate opportunity to meet with and prepare cases on behalf of their clients.

Lawyers' Boycott Widens

A group of prominent West Bank lawyers announced Tuesday night they would begin boycotting military court proceedings, as their colleagues in the Gaza Strip have been doing for the past week.

In the Gaza military court Tuesday, three local youth convicted of throwing gasoline bombs were sentenced to two-and-a-half years in prison. The bombs caused no injuries or damage.

Dozens of other defendants in Gaza, Nablus and Hebron were fined and sentenced to several months in jail for their roles in the disturbances.

Four defendants in Gaza and nine in Hebron pleaded not guilty to the charges. Their cases were deferred until a later date.

American diplomatic observers have been attending the judicial proceedings, Israel Radio reported Tuesday night. The CNN television network here reported that the U.S. Embassy had received permission from the Israeli government to send two observers to the trials.

In Washington, Oakley of the State Department confirmed Tuesday that U.S. Embassy officials in Israel are observing proceedings against the Palestinians. She maintained it is "not unusual" for U.S. officials stationed abroad to monitor trials in foreign countries when there are political consequences.

(Washington correspondent Howard Rosenberg also contributed to this story.)

ISRAELI SOLDIER WOUNDED AS IDF BEEFS UP SECURITY IN WEST BANK

By Hugh Orgel (Tel Aviv)
and David Landau (Jerusalem)

Dec. 29 (JTA) -- An Israeli soldier in Nablus received a stab wound Tuesday evening.

His assailant was injured and captured, and soldiers and security forces held off a crowd with rubber bullets while both injured people were taken to a hospital. No further details were available at press time.

The discouragement of such individual acts

and group demonstrations of violence was on the mind of Chief of Staff Gen. Dan Shomron.

He told military correspondents here Monday that the Israel Defense Force has doubled its strength in the West Bank and tripled it in the Gaza Strip.

He said the crucial date was Friday, Jan. 1, the anniversary of the founding of Al Fatah, the main terrorist group within the Palestine Liberation Organization. The anniversary has triggered disturbances in the past.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin repeatedly warned Tuesday that the IDF would not permit violence and unrest to reach the intensity of the past several weeks.

Events Won't Be Repeated

The newspaper Haaretz reported his pledge that "the disturbances in the territories will not occur again. Even if we are forced to use massive force, under no circumstances will we allow last week's events to repeat themselves."

Shomron indicated that the beefed-up IDF presence in the territories and the recent arrests of agitators and potential agitators would quell trouble.

The chief of staff disclosed that riot- and crowd-control programs have been introduced into the training of soldiers and new recruits. He rejected the idea of special riot control units on grounds that they would divert the army from its main task, to prepare for all-out war.

Shomron hinted, however, that riot-control may be assigned to the largely Bedouin border police, which has received special training for that purpose. He said the border police force was being enlarged.

Shomron insisted that the IDF exercised remarkable restraint in face of provocation and danger during nearly three weeks of violent disturbances in the territories.

The few cases where soldiers opened fire without justification are under investigation by the military police, he said.

Twenty-two Palestinians were reported killed in the rioting.

Taken By Surprise

He acknowledged that the scope and intensity of the recent disturbances took the security forces by surprise. He said they lacked the equipment normally used by the civilian police to control rioting.

Largely because of budget constraints, the IDF ran short of rubber bullets, tear gas and other non-lethal means to restore order, Shomron said. Equipment is being procured from abroad and from Israeli manufacturers, including water cannons, he said.

He stressed during a television interview Monday night that the IDF is an army, and assumes the role of a police force only in extreme cases, such as the recent unrest.

He expressed satisfaction with the speedy arrests of those he termed "agitators." The arrests began on the first day of the riots.

"Naturally, as things continue, more agitators are identified, more demonstrators are identified, and naturally, more are arrested," he said.

"From the first day, we arrested every day, every agitator whose name was written down on our lists. We arrested them from the beginning," Shomron said.

Israeli authorities estimate that about 1,000 Palestinians were arrested during the unrest.

**SELECTION OF PALESTINIAN PATRIARCH
SEEN AS SHOW OF SUPPORT FROM VATICAN**

By Ruth Gruber

ROME, Dec. 29 (JTA) -- Pope John Paul II's appointment Monday of a Palestinian as Catholic patriarch of Jerusalem is being viewed here as a political as well as religious move, despite Vatican denials of any such motives.

No one has expressed doubts about the ability of the new patriarch, 54-year-old Michel Sabbah, who was born in Nazareth.

The Israeli Embassy in Rome said "the nomination is a choice of the church. We, on our part, wish the patriarch-designate active success and we hope for a profitable and constructive cooperation, like that already existing with the other authorities of the various churches in Israel."

Sabbah will be the first Arab to head his church, which number 67,000 worshippers, 85 percent of whom are Arabs. Sixty-five of the 78 priests under him also are Arabs.

Sabbah, replaces 77-year-old Italian Giacomo Giuseppe Beltritti, who is retiring because of age. Vatican sources called Sabbah "the right person for the right job."

Nonetheless, coinciding as it did with the current unrest in the administered territories and the controversy over tough Israeli measures against Palestinian protesters, the appointment of Sabbah was greeted by supporters of the Palestinian cause as a demonstration of papal understanding and support for the Palestinians.

PLO Appreciative

"We greatly appreciate this appointment," the Rome office of the Palestine Liberation Organization said in a statement which noted that the move came "in a particularly delicate moment for the Palestinians."

"It is often forgotten that many Palestinians are Christian," the statement said. "The pope's choice is a recognition of this religious presence among our people."

Even more enthusiastic than the PLO in his reaction was Monsignor Hilarion Capucci, the Melchite Catholic archbishop of Jerusalem and Palestine National Council member living in exile in Rome since his expulsion from Israel in 1977 for his PLO links.

"It is a marvelous and splendid thing," said Capucci, who for a week has been staging a hunger strike in support of the Palestinian protesters in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

He called the appointment of Sabbah, "an objective moral support for the Palestinian people," adding that "I've always followed with pleasure every initiative of the pope and I greet this new initiative with extreme pleasure as a great gift to the Palestinian people."

Orazio La Rocca, a Vatican correspondent for the leading Italian newspaper La Repubblica, said it was difficult not to view the appointment as "an explicit, even if indirect, political signal" on the part of the pope.

Pope Wants 'End of Killing'

"Only a week ago," La Rocca noted, the pontiff asked, in the course of a prayer in St. Peter's Square, for "the end of killing in the land of Christ." According to the Vatican correspondent, the pope was referring to the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, "expressing himself clearly in favor of a homeland for the Palestinians."

He observed that the appeal was launched in the presence of 13 Arab ambassadors accredited to the Holy See who, responding to an initiative of the PLO's Rome office, gathered on Dec. 20 in St. Peter's Square "to silently protest against Israeli aggression in the Palestinian territories and to urge a direct intervention by the pope."

Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls, however, denied deliberate political overtones in the pope's appointment of Sabbah.

"The criterion followed for the selection of the new patriarch," he said, "was strictly religious and pastoral, taking into account the local reality, that is, that it is the only diocese for the 65,000 faithful of the Latin Rite, 85 percent of whom are of Arab origin, in the territory of Israel, Jordan and Cyprus."

He added, "Any criterion based on political opportunity was simply not taken into account."

**TEXTILE FIRM COMPLAINS OF
SABOTAGE BY ARAB EMPLOYEES**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, Dec. 29 (JTA) -- The management of a major industrial plant has accused its Arab employees from the administered territories of sabotage and willful absenteeism resulting in significant damage and financial losses, according to news reports this week.

The complaint was contained in a secret memorandum from Dov Pollak, chairman of the Polgat textile mills in Kiryat Gat, to Minister of Commerce and Industry Ariel Sharon. The memorandum was prepared three months ago, Haaretz reported Tuesday, long before the latest wave of disturbances in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

According to Haaretz, Polgat officials initially refused to confirm the memorandum, but Pollak later told the newspaper that it had been prepared at his request to be forwarded to state agencies.

Pollak maintained that similar situations exist in other factories employing labor from the territories. But Haaretz reported that a survey by its reporters of industrial plants in the same area failed to substantiate his claim.

The memorandum said most of the sabotage occurred during the night shift, when 90 percent of the workers are Arabs. Arabs from the Hebron area and the Gaza Strip comprise about half of Polgat's work force of 1,200.

According to Polgat management, machinery was put out of action for several days at a time and textiles were slashed with knives. Polgat placed its losses at \$100,000 over three months.

The memorandum questions the ability of industrial plants in Israel to operate with labor from the administered territories. According to Haaretz, it was prepared to bolster Polgat's case for importing labor from abroad. Between 6,000 and 9,000 foreign workers are presently employed in Israeli industries, according to unofficial estimates.

This apparently is a result of unrest in the territories, past problems with Arab workers and the refusal of Jewish workers to perform manual labor. Polgat has recently brought in 60 workers from Portugal to replace Arabs from the territories, though 25,000 Arabs in the territories are presently registered as unemployed.

The Polgat memorandum complained that many of its Arab employees "disappear" during work hours, even though they know the factory cannot function without them. The absentee rate

among Arab workers in Israeli industrial plants in general has averaged 45 percent since the disturbances began on Dec. 9 and 70 percent in the Haifa area. Kiryat Gat is in the Negev.

Arab workers at the Polgat mills recently demanded a day off on Friday, the Moslem sabbath, and that the management provide a mosque on the plant premises. The latter demand was flatly rejected. Polgat sources said that since then swastikas were found painted on the factory walls.

Muhammed Miari, an Arab Knesset member representing the Progressive List for Peace, accused Polgat of spreading libelous and racist allegations against its Arab employees.

But Minister of Labor Moshe Katzav warned Tuesday that "if the unrest continues, with the Arabs from Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip not showing up for work, we will have to consider positively requests by industrialists to import foreign workers."

(Jerusalem correspondent Gil Sedan also contributed to this report.)

YUGOSLAV ENVOY SAYS IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL A MUST

By Tamar Levy

GENEVA, Dec. 29 (JTA) -- Yugoslavia must resume full diplomatic relations with Israel, contends the Yugoslav ambassador to the United Nations here, Marko Kosin.

"Yugoslavia recognizes the fact that Israel should have a right for her sovereignty," said Kosin in the first official interview given by a high official from his country to an Israeli journalist.

"Israel is a main factor in the Middle East and there can be no solution to the problem without Israeli consent and participation. Therefore, we have to improve our relations with Israel."

He said Yugoslav public opinion and most members of Parliament favor re-establishing relations with Israel. Only the government is not unanimous on the subject. "We had prior to 1967 full diplomatic relations and therefore will re-establish them as before," he said. The relations were broken following the Six-Day War.

Reports on Israel in the Yugoslav press are favorable, in contrast to the past, and the Yugoslav press agency, Tanjug, placed a correspondent in Israel last summer, he said.

Kosin said a new foreign minister will be appointed at the beginning of 1988, most likely Budimir Loncar, who will be less likely to protect Arab interests than the current minister, Rais Dizdarevic, who is Moslem.

The envoy did not hide the fact that his country would prefer contact with leaders of Israel's leftist Mapam Party.

He also pointed out that Yugoslavia had good economic relations with Israel -- about \$35 million in combined trade a year, a sum very important to Yugoslavia -- and that Yugoslavia is ready to increase the economic ties.

His country also is interested in tourism from Israel; the national Yugoslav airline, Jat, opened a line to Israel earlier this month.

Kosin noted that many Israelis of Yugoslav origin kept in touch with their former homeland. And he was optimistic about further cultural exchanges.

He said Dizdarevic, the foreign minister, met with his Israeli counterpart, Shimon Peres, last

September in New York during the U.N. General Assembly. Kosin said the Yugoslav explained to Peres why it was not yet time to re-establish diplomatic relations.

Kosin added that the Yugoslav government had very good contacts with the World Jewish Congress.

In related developments, this correspondent was invited to a Yugoslav national celebration in November and Kosin has accepted an invitation to dinner by the Israeli ambassador to the United Nations.

MECHAM'S 'CHRISTIAN NATION' REMARK DRAWS INTERFAITH PROTEST IN ARIZONA

PHOENIX, Dec. 29 (JTA) -- A local coalition of mainstream Christian denominations has joined Arizona Jews in expressing dismay over Gov. Evan Mecham's remarks to a Jewish audience here Dec. 13 that "Jesus Christ is the God of the Land."

A public protest is planned by the Bishops' Executive Round Table, the Greater Phoenix Jewish News reported. The Round Table includes American Baptists, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians, Roman Catholics, Society of Friends, Unitarians, United Church of Christ members and Universalists.

Mecham, who is facing a vigorous recall campaign, is a Mormon. He astonished and offended Jews two Sundays ago when he spoke at the monthly men's club breakfast at Ahavat Torah Congregation.

According to Jewish News editor Leni Reiss, Mecham's strongly implied rejection of religious pluralism in the United States came when he was asked by a congregant to explain a story in the Arizona Daily Star about his recent speech at the National Center for Constitutional Studies banquet in Salt Lake City.

"I want you to recognize tonight -- on this 200th anniversary (of the U.S. Constitution) that this is a great Christian nation that recognizes Jesus Christ as the God of the land," he was quoted as saying.

Asked if he indeed said that, Mecham replied, "From my standpoint, Jesus Christ is the God of the land. I said it -- and I probably will say it again. If that is a problem for anyone, then it is their problem."

Bruce Jones, regional minister of Christian Churches' Disciples, told the Jewish News that the Round Table plans to write a letter protesting Mecham's remarks, circulate it and send it with as many signatures as possible to The Arizona Republic as a letter to the editor.

The Rev. Gary Skinner of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. will draft the letter. "Our concern is to express solidarity with the Jewish community as well as our conviction that the United States is a pluralistic country," Skinner told the Jewish News.

Sen. John McCain of Arizona said of his fellow Republican Mecham, "I think the governor's remarks were at best unfortunate, at worst offensive, to most Americans, not just those who happen to be of the Jewish faith."

Joel Breshin, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, maintained that the governor is not anti-Semitic, "just insensitive."

Mecham responded that he is "not at all insensitive," has "many good Jewish friends" and is represented by a Jewish lawyer in his fight against recall.